TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

VOL. LIII. TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1885 NO. 52.

Poetry.

For the Blade.

THE WIDOW'S CHRISTMAS.

BY PETRESIA PETERS.

O, merry hearts are gath'ring round
The richly freighted Christmas tree,
And music's soft enchanting sound
Is gaily mingling with their glee,
While perched upon the nearest tree
An owl is singing loud for me
His "Hoo, hoo hoo, hoo-oo!"

With joy and splendor all aglare,
There wealth her board with bounty spreads,
And youth and beauty mingle there
With sagely wise and silvered heads;
Their lamps with brightly gleaming bars
Are vieing with the glist'ning stars—
But now, that night cry hoarsely jars,
"Hoo-hoo, hoo-hoo, hoo-oo!"

So soft and sweet the music fell,
It woke my spirit's broken lyre,
And with its tender magic spell
It stirred to flame life's smoul'ring fire;
But now again with mocking flout
That ugly bird is calling out,
"Hoo-hoo, hoo-hoo, hoo-oo!"

It calls me back in gloom to-night
To gaze on low and dingy walls,
Where shadows creep in dusky light
Contrasting strangely with their halls;
As the Pandora's box of strings
He brought beneath his brooding wings,
Outstreaching them, he nearer springs
And croaks, "Hoo-hoo, hoo-oo!"

And hunger's wolf is at my door,
It fills my heart with shrinking dread—
My darling babes—my joy of yore,
Will wail at morn in vain for bread;
The crumbs from Poverty's crowded store,
Would still the wolf's sharp hunger-howl
And drive that vile ill-omened owl,
And hush his doleful "Hoo-oo!"

O, could that wail reach you to-night,
While round that board with bounty spread,
You'd change his gloom to joyous light,
By scattering us one loaf of bread!
'Twould make my Christmas sunshine bright
If hope's warm glow my heart had stirred,
I'd know of no portentous bird,
But joyous heard my doveling's coo!
Wauseon, O.

CHRISTMAS.

BY EUGENE FIELD.

My little child comes to my knee
And tugging pleads that he may climb
Into my lap to hear me tell
The Christmas tale he loves so well—
A tale my mother told to me,
Beginning "Once upon a time."

It is a tale of skies that rang
With angel rhapsodies sublime;
Of that great host, serene and white,
The shepherds saw one winter night—
And of the glorious stars that sang
An anthem once upon a time.

This story of the hallowed years
Tells of the sacrifice sublime
Of one who prayed alone and wept
While his unwarned followers slept—
And how his blood and Mary's tears
Commingled, once upon a time.

And now my darling at my side
And echoes of the distant chime
Bring that sweet story back to me—
Of Bethlehem and Calvary,
And of the gentle Christ that died
For sinners, once upon a time.

The mighty deeds that men have told
In ponderous tomes or flowing rhyme,
Like misty shadows fade away—
But this sweet story hides for aye,
And, like the stars that sang of old,
We sing of "Once upon a time."

CHRISTMAS IN THE OLDEN TIME.

BY SIR WALTER SCOTT.

And well our Christian sires of old
Loved when the year its course had rolled,
And brought blithe Christmas back again,
With all its hospitable train.
Domestic and religious rite
Gave honor to the holy night;
On Christmas eve the bells were rung;
On Christmas eve the mass was sung;
That only night in all the year
Saw the stoled priest the chalice rear.
The damsel donned her kirtle-sheen;
The hall was dressed with holly green;
Forth to the wood did merry men go,
To gather in the mistletoe.
Then opened wide the baron's hall
To vassal, tenant, serf and all;
Power laid his rod of rule aside,
And ceremony doffed his pride;
The heir, with roses in his shoes,
That night might village partner choose;
The lord, underogating, share
The vulgar game of "Post and pair."
All hailed with uncontrolled delight
And general voice the nappy night,
That, to the cottage as the crown,
Brought tidings of salvation down.
The fire, with well-dried logs supplied,
Went roaring up the chimney wide;
The huge hall table's oaken face,
Scrubbed till it shone the day to grace,
Bore thereon in its massive board
No mark to part the squire and lord;
Then was brought in the lusty brawn
By old blue-coated serving man;
Then the grim boar's head frowned on high,
Crested with bays and rosemary.
Well can the green-garbed ranger tell
How, when, and where the monster fell;
What dogs before his death he tore,
And all the baiting of the boar.
The wassail round, in good brown bowls,
Garnished with ribbons, blithely trowls.
There the huge sirloin reeked; hard by
Plum-porridge stood, and Christmas-pie;
Nor failed old Scotland to produce,
At such high tide, her savory goose.
Then came the merry maskers in;
And carols roared with blithesome din.
If unmelodious was the song,
It was a hearty note, and strong.
Who lists may in their mummery see
Traces of ancient mystery;
White shirts supplied the masquerade,
And smutted cheeks the visors made;
But, oh! what maskers, richly dight,
Can boast of beauties half so light:
England was merry England, when
Old Christmas brought his sports again.
'Twas Christmas broached the mightiest ale;
'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale;
A Christmas gambol oft could cheer
The poor man's heart through half the year.

Our Story Teller.

For the Blade.

HUGH THORNDYKE'S XMAS.

BY B. D. E.

Christmas eve at Thorndyke Hall.

The weather, which had been warm and pleasant for weeks, making the wiseacres shake their heads and mutter gloomy forebodings about a green Christmas, had taken a sudden turn the day before, and to-night the snow is coming down in a great fleecy white cloud, covering everything with its glistening mantle, and anon, whirled onlying about by the cutting wind that moans and sobs around the corners of the ancient pile, almost like a human soul in its last strong agony.

The tempest without is in strange contrast with the quiet that reigns within Thorndyke Hall.

Hugh Thorndyke, master of the Hall and its broad acres, is seated, in a large easy chair before a brightly burning grate fire, in the library of the grand old place. Around him on every hand are the evidence of a vast wealth and refined taste. The floor is covered with a rich crimson velvet carpet that echoes back no sound to the footfall of an inquisitive intruder. The windows are hidden by curtains of the same rich, warm color, adding a cheerful appearance to the already luxurious room, and partially shutting out the noise and tumult of the tempest outside. The walls are lined with books treating upon almost every subject known to literature, and on easels, disposed artistically around the room are paintings worth a prince's ransom.

Yet, in spite of all this magnificence, the master of Thorndyke Hall is not happy.

He is still young, not over thirty, but as he sits here to-night deep lines of trouble are discernible around his sensitive mouth and handsome expressive eyes, while his luxuriant dark hair is thickly streaked with silver.

He had been trying to read, but he gave it up hours ago and now sits motionless as a statue, buried in thought.

The night wears on, the storm increases in violence, but still he sits gazing dreamily into the fire, which has burned long, thinking, thinking. He is thinking of another Christmas eve. It seems to him to-night ages since then, yet it is only five short years since he met and loved Lily Delevan, for love had come simultaneously with the meeting.

No one ever saw Lily Delevan without loving her, and Hugh Thorndyke was no exception to the rule. He loved her with a mad, passionate adoration that approached idolatry, and she returned his love with all the strength of her truthful, loving nature. When at last he gathered courage to tell her of his love, and ask her to be his wife; she had given him a softly murmured "yes," for answer, which almost set him wild with joy.

They were quietly married after a very brief engagement, for Lily had but recently lost her mother, by the fell destroyer, consumption; so Hugh took her to the shelter of his home, and love, and for a time life flowed on, for them, like a summer sea. But at last the serpent entered their Eden, in the person of Hugh's own younger brother, a wild, dissolute young fellow, who had suddenly disappeared some time before Hugh and Lily met.

Hugh did not know, and Lily never told him, that Robert Thorndyke had been a suitor for her hand before he had met and won her for his own.

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Two years before Hugh and Lily had met, Robert, in one of his roving expeditions, had visited New Orleans. He was a handsome, dashing fellow, with merry blue eyes, but which at times had a very disagreeable expression, and light wavy hair, quite in contrast to Hugh, who was dark and thoughtful.

Robert managed to gain an entree into the best society wherever he went, and while sojourning in the Crescent City he met Lily Delavan, who was visiting friends there. She was just budding into womanhood, and was as beautiful as a dream, of that perfect blonde type, so rarely found, and when found, almost involuntarily worshipped.

Robert fell desperately in love with her at first sight and sought her on every possible occasion. She treated him with the same quiet courtesy that characterized her manner always, and when he declared his love for her and asked her to marry him, kindly but firmly refused him, and in reply to his earnest entreaties to take time for consideration, told him she could never love him; that it was useless for him to hope.

Then he flew into a terrible rage and accused her of trifling with him and more of the same sort, ending up by swearing to be revenged for what he termed her duplicity.

She left him without a word and did not see him again until he appeared so inopportunely upon the scene after her marriage. Then she learned for the first time that he was her husband's brother, for he had gone under an assumed name in New Orleans.

Hugh and Lily were married in June. Robert returned in November and for a time after his return everything went on as smoothly as before. No one dreamed of the storm that was brewing in his wicked breast.

He had been at Thorndyke Hall nearly a month when Hugh was called to the city on urgent business. After he was gone Robert sought Lily and upbraided her with throwing him over for his older and wealthier brother.

In vain Lily protested that she did not know they were brothers until his return, did not even know Hugh when she refused him.

He would not believe her, and ending the tirade of abuse and reproaches he heaped upon her by renewing his oath of vengance, turned on his heel and left her in a fainting condition.

Hugh's stay in the city was prolonged until the day before Christmas, when he returned home filled with thoughts of his beautiful wife, whom he was so impatient to see that the cars seemed to drone along as though envying him the joy of his home coming.

As he sits to-night in the great armchair he thinks it would have been better for him if he had never come, but had died on the way. Then all the agony of the past four years would have been spared him, and his trust in his beautiful wife been unshaken. But that same blind destiny, which governs all, hurried him on over the glistening steel rails and through the snow at the rate of forty miles an hour. And he with thoughts busily occupied with the arrangements for the morrow and the gifts he has brought his darling wife and the love he bears her, comes on in blissful unconsciousness of the storm cloud gathering over his head.

An old adage says: "Time enough for sorrow when sorrow comes," and what a world of wisdom is contained in those words! Is sorrow ever lighter when we are expecting it? Do we feel a loss less keenly because we have been anticipating it, or do we not suffer all its pangs in advance without lessening the force of the blow itself?

What a blessing it is that the future is unknown to us! How many heartaches are spared us, how many gloomy pictures hidden from our view, only He, who is the giver of all good, alone knows.

It was quite late when Hugh reached home and very shortly after their first greetings were over, he had Lily good night and went to the library to arrange the Christmas gifts he had brought her and look over the correspondence that had accumulated during his absence.

He went through his correspondence first and made such notes in regard to it as seemed necessary at the time. Then he turned his attention to the packages he had brought from the city. First he took out a magnificent set of pearls, that he thought would be vastly becoming to Lily's blonde beauty. He arranged them on the table so as to show them to the best advantage, then he sat down and gave himself up to thoughts of his beautiful wife who had made him so happy. He had noticed to-night, with secret misgivings, that she looked pale and worn, and he feared she was not happy in his quiet home. He mentally resolved to liven up the place, fill the grand old house with company as soon as possible, perhaps the change would do her good. Then he began planning the changes he would make in their mode of living.

He was in the midst of these pleasant reflections when his brother unceremoniously entered the room. Hugh called her attention to the present he had brought for Lily and asked his opinion of it.

"It is very beautiful," he said, then added, "Would to God she was worthy of your love," with an assumption of fervency, that would have deceived a more suspecting man than his brother.

Hugh looked at him in surprise and bewilderment, an instant, then clutched his arm with a grip of iron.

"What do you mean? Speak!" he gasped heavily.

Robert Thorndyke would have made his fortune on the stage. There never was a more consummate actor, and now he sank on his knees and said in a broken faltering voice, "Forgive me. But oh! my brother, I cannot hold my peace longer and see you wronged in this heartless way. While you are planning new pleasures for her, your wife is devising ways and means of seeing a lover, handsomer than yourself, but who had not the Thorndyke wealth to recommend him for a husband." Then rising and speaking more calmly, "I discovered this before I had been here a week, quite by accident, however, and remonstrated with her, but to no avail. She protested her innocence and declared that you should know all some day. At last I told her I would reveal all to you now if she saw him again, but she did not heed my warning, and last night they met again, and I heard her promise to see him again to-night as she kissed him good night, and—"

"Stop!" thundered Hugh, his face livid with passion. "I can not, will not, believe what you tell me!"

"It is true, and I can prove it," said Robert, coolly, "even now they are together, exchanging their honeyed words and loving caresses."

"Where?" horsely from Hugh. "Speak! Quick, man, tell me where to find them!"

"In the old deserted summer house down at the foot of the garden," and before he could say another word he was left alone to gloat over the ruin he had wrought.

His revenge was complete "at last," he thought. No, not complete, he must witness the closing act in the tragedy of which he had been the author. "For there will surely be a tragedy," he said to himself. "There was murder in his eyes when he left me."

Taking a circuitous route he arrived at the summer house in advance of Hugh, who had come more slowly.

Hugh strode out into the keen night air a prey to a thousand conflicting emotions. He would not believe this monstrous story, he thought his wife was the soul of honor, and loved him with a love as strong as his own. Then he remembered that she had looked troubled when he met her to-night, might it not be that the fear of Robert's threatened exposure had brought that worn look to her face. "I cannot, I will not, believe it," he said. "Robert has always been jealous of my prosperity, and takes this way to revenge himself upon me."

He walked on in the keen night air, heedless where he went. He must have time to think, time to form some plan to refute these terrible charges brought against his beloved wife, for he did not believe them for a moment, he told himself. Unconsciously he turned his steps toward the deserted summer house. Still was that same blind destiny hurrying him on.

It was a perfect winter's night. The snow covered the earth with its soft velvet mantle. The air was cutting, and a light wind was springing up sending an occasional cloud skurrying across the face of the winter moon, which shed its silvery rays over the snowy covered landscape, transforming it into a silver sea.

Without noticing it, Hugh had approached to within a few feet of the deserted summer house, when looking up, impelled by some irresistible impulse, he saw a sight through the open window that made his heart turn sick with horror.

There were two forms outlined against the window on the opposite side of the ruined cottage, and one of them was—— he must be mistaken, he thought. He looked again; no, he was not mistaken. It was Lily, and her head was resting on the breast of a tall, distinguished looking man, who was bending tenderly over her. He never forgot the agony of that moment.

"Oh! my God!" he muttered, under his breath, "so fair and yet so false!" And like one dazed, he turned his steps towards the hall.

In his preoccupation Hugh did not see the dark form, that rose from behind a shrub, as he turned, and following, overtook him before he had gone a dozen yards from the spot where life had lost all its brightness for him, and the next instant he fell to the ground a lifeless heap, struck down by a murderous bludgeon in the hands of his dark pursuer.

Just then the moon came from behind a cloud, that had momentarily concealed it, and casting its radiance over the world anew, revealed the stern-set features of Robert Thorndyke as he glanced hastily around to see if he was observed.

"The accursed coward!" he muttered between his clenched teeth, "I thought he would kill them both," then stooping and feeling of the prostrate man's heart. "He is dead, so much the better. I can now take some comfort in life, and perhaps,—who knows, perhaps, I may win the peerless Lily for my wife?" and he bent his step in the direction of Thorndyke Hall, without a single backward glance at the rigid form lying so still and cold.

The cold pitiless moon shone over all, revealing the white upturned face, with its wide staring eyes gazing on vacancy.

Lily and her companion have just parted.

She had told him, she must go now or she might be missed. "And how could I account for my absence?" she asked.

And he, bending his head and kissing her fondly, had said:

"Good bye, little sister, God bless you; I hope the necessity for this secrecy won't always last," and then after a moment's thought, "When I see you again, it will be when I can come openly and boldly to you, not like a thief prowling in the night."

Neither of them dreamed of the experience they would pass through before they met again after to-night.

She held up her bewitching face for another kiss, and then saying, "You must be very careful, Harry. I have trembled for you ever since you came here. Now, good night," and turning quickly she sped toward the house.

She had not gone far when she stumbled over Hugh's prostrate body. Jumping up hastily, she stooped to examine the features of the man lying so still and cold in the snow.

In a moment she recognized the features of her husband, whom she supposed was busy in the library, and the next instant the conviction forced itself upon her, that he must have witnessed her meeting with her brother, with a suddenness that staggered her.

And how could she explain matters to him? she thought. "He does not even know that I have got a brother," and she dare not make his existence known to any one yet.

These things passed though her mind in an instant, and the next moment a wild, despairing shriek rent the air, quickly followed by another, and another, waking the slumbering inmates of Thorndyke Hall by their startling shrillness.

In a moment Lily's brother was at her side, anxiously inquiring the cause of her alarm. She hurriedly explained it to him, and then bade him fly.

"You must not be seen here," she told him breathlessly, "What would people say?" and then added, as the noise of approaching footsteps and excited voices fell upon her ears, "The servants are coming from the hall and they must not see you."

He turned and left her, she watching until his tall, graceful form had passed from sight and then directed her attention to restoring her husband to consciousness.

It would have been better for them both if he had died then, Hugh thinks to-night, but it were not so to be.

In a moment the servants from the house arrive and Lily hurriedly directs one of them to go for a doctor and two of the remaining ones take Hugh up and carry him to the hall and place him on a bed in his own room.

They are still trying to revive him when the doctor arrives, who after an examination of Hugh, gives it as his opinion that he has received a severe blow on the head, but is only stunned and will probably be all right in a few hours, and almost before he has finished speaking, his patient opens his eyes in a dazed manner. The doctor promptly administers an opiate and he sinks into a calm sleep. Leaving directions to be observed should the case take any unfavorable turn, the physician takes his departure.

Lily sends all the rest away, takes her place by Hugh's bedside and watches with never-wearying eyes while he sleeps.

The night wore on. The great clock in the hall strikes one. A storm has risen within the last hour, and now the wind is blowing a gale, and the snow is coming down in a great blinding cloud, covering the ground more deeply with its cold, white shroud.

How still it is within! The clock chimes out two, and still she keeps her lonely vigil.

The storm has increased in violence, and the wind howls around the corners and clamors at the windows as though hungering for prey.

The clock chimes the half hour, and as it ceases striking Hugh moves uneasily, and then wakes with a start. His wandering gaze rests on Lily's for an instant, and then the occurrence of the night come to him like a stroke of lightning.

"You here!" he cries out hoarsely, starting up in bed.

"Hugh, where should I be if not at my husband's side when he is ill?" she asked soothingly.

"Go to the lover whose fond embrace you left to come to me!" he tells her.

"I have no lover but my husband," she answered. "He fills my heart so completely that I have no room for any one else."

"Liar!" he cries fiercely. "Who was the man you met in the deserted summer house to-night?"

"Heaven help me!" she answers him, "I cannot tell you!"

"It is as I thought," he says angrily. "He is a lover and you dare not reveal his name for fear I will kill him!"

"No, no, it is not so! Oh! my husband, I am not the guilty thing you believe me! I am innocent of wrong; believe me and trust me one little while! I love you, only you! I cannot tell you now; but will soon, soon!"

"Never call me husband again," he answers her passionately. "You are no wife of mine. Leave this house instantly and forever!"

"Great God!" she murmurs, "the wound he has received has driven him crazy;" then to Hugh, "I beg of you compose yourself; this excitement will bring on a fevor."

"Go!" he reiterates harshly, pointing to the door, "go before I forget that you bear my name and curse you!"

"Oh! Hugh!" she moans, "what do you mean? You surely, surely would not turn me out into the street on such a night!"

"Wouldn't I?" questioningly. "We shall see!" then catching her by the arm and dragging her toward the door.

"Oh! Hugh, my husband, have mercy!" she pleads, falling on her knees and clinging to him imploringly. "Think, think what you are doing! Think of our child that is to come into the world so soon, and have mercy!"

"You should have thought of that before," he tells her. "Now go to your fond lover, and may the curse ——"

"Oh! Hugh, not that, not that!" she begs. "Do not curse me. I am innocent, innocent!"

"—— of God fall on you both," he finishes, and opening the door thrusts her out into the night.

He was crazed with jealousy, and mad with passion, and he has repented his doings that night in sackcloth and ashes ever since.

He lived his lonely life, going nowhere and seeing no one, suffering all the pangs of disappointed love, for, despite what he believed her sin, he loved his wife more dearly than ever now that she was lost to him, but he heard not a word of her.

Nearly a year passed, and Christmas was near at hand, when Hugh received a telegram announcing that his brother, who disappeared the night he turned Lily out into the street, was lying at the point of death in Philadelphia, and requesting his immediate presence if he would see him alive.

He arrived in Philadelphia Christmas eve and was driven to a residence in a quiet part of the city, where his brother was lying, and learned that he had been wounded in a quarrel over a woman of the town, and could not survive.

When Hugh entered the room where he lay, Robert's face brightened perceptibly.

"I am—so—glad you have—come," he gasped brokenly. "I could not—die—until—I had—seen you. I—I—have—a confession—to—make."

Then continued with an effort—"It was not—a lover—you saw—with Lily—that night—but—her—her—brother, who dare not show himself because he was charged with a crime—of—which—God help—me—I was—guilty! It was a—part of my revenge—to—to have him—suffer for it."

Great beads of prospiration stood on his forehead as he went on. "I hated—Lily—because—she—had—refused—me before—before she met you—and—I had sworn to be revenged,—and I hated—you—be—because—father left you—all—his—money—and cut me off—with a—a mere pittance." Then, as Hugh turned to go, he cried out in an agony of remorse: "Forgive me—brother—forgive—!"

Hugh looked at him like one bereft of reason, then springing from his seat, exclaimed: "May God forgive you, I never can!" and rushed from the room and house.

He never saw Robert after that, for he died within an hour after Hugh left the house, and was buried without a single mourner to follow him to his last resting place.

Hugh immediately set to work to find Lily. He employed the best detectives in the country and was constantly on the alert himself for some trace of the wife, he so fondly loved, and had so cruelly wronged, but all to no avail.

After a year's fruitless search the detectives gave up the case, expressing as their opinion that Lily was surely dead. They could find any live man or woman in the world in the time they devoted to the case, and Hugh was obliged to accept their theory as correct.

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Hugh always dreads Christmas Eve, and as he sits by the fire to-night, the whole past comes up before him like a grim phantom.

"Oh! my God," he groans, at last, "will this gnawing pain at my heart never cease? Must I always live like this? Heavenly Father why did you not take me with Lily?" Then he relapsed into a deep reverie and finally into a troubled sleep.

In his dreams he lives over his whole life, from his earliest recollections down to the present time. He does not hear the library door open, nor the soft footfalls on the rich velvet carpet, but as though some good angel was directing his dreams, he dreams that Lily is with him again, more beautiful than ever, and earth seems a paradise to him, then all is a dark blank.

He wakes with a start, to feel a pair of soft arms around his neck and hear a childish voice prattle:

"Oo is my papa, ain't 'oo? I love 'oo ever so much! Do 'oo love 'ittle Lily?"

Yes, his dream had come true, for Lily herself was kneeling beside him, more beautiful than ever, one arm around his neck and a look of ineffable love illuminating her beautiful face, while a lovely little girl, a perfect miniature of Lily, was clinging around his neck in a perfect transport of joy.

"Lily!"

"Hugh!"

That was all that was said then, but in that supreme moment each read forgiveness and a deathless love on the eyes of the other.

Hugh caught his wife and child, God's Christmas gifts, to his breast, and a peace came to him that he had never known before.

His greatest sorrow had come on a Christmas eve in the past, and now on the eve of our Savior's birthday came the greatest joy of his life.

Humor.

WILLIAM HENRY'S RETURN,

Or, Thanksgiving Day at Farmer Harrowtooth's.

Young William Henry Harrowtooth set down the basket of late potatoes he had picked from the row and put his left hand round upon the large pain in the small of his back. He had been picking potatoes from the row since early morn, and now the sun was low in the west, but not quite as low as young William Henry wished it were. The sun had a way of hanging in one spot in the west when he was brooding over the assorted backaches of agricultural pursuits. He did not enjoy so much exercise in the open air as his father's farm afforded, and, next to pie, he loved leisure for meditation.

Young William Henry's father was different. He was quite a lively old soul. He not only stirred himself, but he stirred everybody and everything on the plantation. He worked like a barrel of new cider. Young William Henry did not take after him, but he often took after young William Henry.

"Father," exclaimed young William Henry, as he rose and faced his progenitor, "I have picked my last potato; I'm going into the world to win my own fortune. I never was intended to do this sort of drudgery. I'm going down to the city, and when I come back I'll come with money and fine clothes."

"And a high hat and diamond breastpin?" added the father, derisively.

"Yes," said young William Henry, hopefully, "I will wear a high hat and diamond breastpin. Other poor boys have done it and I can do it. Jay Gould went to New York a poor boy, with only $4.75 in his pocket, and now he is rich."

"Who is Jay Gould?" asked old Mr. Harrowtooth.

"He's a financier, father."

"And what's a financier, son?"

"A financier is a man who gets stocks and bonds and things cheap in one way or another and sells them high," answered young William Henry. "I'm going to be a financier, and when I come home a rich man I'll have the house painted and a new roof put on the barn."

"Good bye, my son," said old Mr. Harrowtooth, as he picked up young William Henry's potato basket; "come and see us when you're a financier. You'll find the latch string out."

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Young William Henry reached the great city, thought of his far-away home and his mother's griddle cakes and tears came in his eyes. But he soon met a fine appearing and fine speaking young man, who seemed to think young William Henry's face was familiar, and sure enough, when young William Henry had told him he was from the vicinity of Adamsville and the son of Farmer Harrowtooth, the young man remembered him well. He was Judge Greenbag's city nephew, he said, and he knew the president of the Adamsville bank, and Mr. Mugwump, the postmaster, and lots of other prominent Adamsville folks. He invited William Henry to go home with him, and young William Henry went.

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It is Thanksgiving Day. It was the custom of Farmer Harrowtooth to rest from his labors on Thanksgiving Day, but while he was resting he would go out and nail loose boards on the fence and cut fire-wood or build a new cowshed. As he was resting thus on this fine November day, a solitary wanderer approached on foot, and, pausing at the top of the hill, leaned against the fence as if to prop a weary form. He was not clothed in the height of fashion. One of his shoes was cut low and the other was cut in every direction. Suddenly the odor of roasting turkey and frying doughnuts came to his nostrils upon the bosom of the November zephyr, and an unwonted look of joy pre-empted his face. He moved on with a lighter step, and soon stood before Farmer Harrowtooth.

"Father," said the wanderer, very humbly, "I am back."

"Who are you?" asked the old farmer.

"Don't you know your own son William Henry, father?"

"You are not my son William Henry," answered Mr. Harrowtooth, in a firm, cold tone of voice. "William Henry is down in the city financiering, and he is to come back wearing store clothes and a high hat and diamond breastpin, and with money in his pocket to paint the house and put a new roof on the barn. You are an impostor, and you can't come the prodigal son act on this poor old man."

"But, father, I have been deceived and robbed, and these old rags were put on me instead of my nice clothes by thieves, and I've walked all the way from the city."

"How's the walking between here and the city?" queried Mr. Harrowtooth, taking up another board to nail on the cowshed.

"And I am so hungry," continued young William Henry, for truly it was he. "I haven't eaten anything since yesterday morning. You used to be kind to tramps, father."

"Then your are a tramp, are you?" said old Mr. Harrowtooth. "Well, if you are an honest tramp that makes a difference. Say you're a tramp quick, or travel."

At that moment young William Henry heard his mother's voice announcing that dinner was ready, and he owned up, without mental reservation, that he was a tramp—a ragged, hungry, tired tramp.

"And I tell you what," said old Farmer Harrowtooth, as young William Henry followed him to the house, "you can be my son and wear his clothes and do his work—a little spryer than he used to do it, I hope—until he comes back from the city a blooming financier." And the old farmer considerately stopped to pump some water for the brindle cow, while William Henry went in and embraced his mother and changed his gay and picturesque trousers for more becoming attire, and during the remainder of that bright November afternoon young William Henry Harrowtooth was full of unadulterated joy and something more. Roast turkey and his own mother's doughnuts and pumpkin pies had never tasted so good to him before, and in the comfortable Harrowtooth farmhouse the day was one of sincere thanksgiving and grateful fullness all around.

Quick Work.

"You can talk all you please about big feats in railroading," said a Western conductor, "but I guess we can beat 'em all. Our trackmen have been engaged for some time in straightening out the track and shortening curves. Our superintendent is a hustler, I want you to know, and the other day he determined to reduce the distance between Smithville and Union five miles."

"In one day?"

"Yes, sir, in one day. It isn't every road that can afford improvements of that magnitude. But our line is making money now, and the superintendent said we had used that long track long enough."

"But how did he manage to do the job so quick? Must have taken several thousand men?"

"Oh, no; one man did the whole thing. It took him about 10 minutes. You see, when our road was first built traffic was light and profits doubtful. So the distance between stations was put down on the time card at from one to five miles greater than it actually was. Of course, all passengers were charged three cents a mile according to the distance. Our directors declared many a dividend on the strength of those extra miles."

A POLITE YANKEE.

How He Gained Social Status in a Southern Town.

Politeness was born in him, and he couldn't help it. He drifted into a prominent town in the South soon after Johnson's surrender, and before anybody's temper had cooled down. He was there after cotton, and he let the fact be known. He was from Connecticut, and he did not try to conceal it. He hadn't been in the town two hours before an "unregenerated" pulled his nose.

"Ah—yes!" said the man from Connecticut. "Was that accidental?"

"No, sir! No, sir!" was the fierce rejoinder.

"Did it a-purpose, eh?"

"Of course I did."

"Well, I shouldn't a-thought it of you! I'll pass it over as a case of temporary insanity."

An hour later, as he sat in the hotel, a fire-eater approached him and spit on his boots and stood and glared at him.

"You must have a wobble to your tongue if you can't spit straighter than that," said the man from Connecticut.

"I meant so, sir—meant so!"

"Wanted to get me mad, eh?"

"Yes, sir! Yes, sir!"

"You shouldn't do so. When I'm roused I'm a hard man to handle. I'll excuse this on the grounds that you don't know me."

In the afternoon he was given a hint that he had better leave town at once, and when he demurred a lawyer sent him a challenge.

"What's it fur?" asked the Yankee, as he read the missive.

"You insulted him, and he demands satisfaction," explained the messenger.

"Can't I argy the case with him?"

"No, sir!"

"S'pose'n I give him $5 to settle?"

"He wants to fight you, sir. And you must either fight or he will horsewhip you."

"Warm me with a rawhide, eh?"

"He will!"

"Shoo! but who'd 'a' thought it! Say, I'll gin him $10."

"So? You likewise insult me!"

"Do, eh! I swan I didn't mean to! Then I've got to fight?"

"You have."

"May get killed, or kill the other feller?"

"Exactly."

"Well, I'm kinder sorry. I never had but one fight in my life, and then I got licked. I don't want to get hurt, and I dont want to injure anybody else, and—"

"You'll wait to be horsewhipped!"

"I rayther guess not. I guess I'll fight. I'll choose rifles at twenty paces, and you kin pick out your own ground. Jist let me know when it's to come off, and I'll try and be thar."

It came off next morning. He was thar. They offered him an opportunity to apologize, but he wouldn't touch it. He stood up as stiff as a new barn door and bored a bullet through his man's shoulder, and came off without a scratch himself.

"Bein' as I'm out here now! and bein' as somebody else may want to horsewhip me to-morrer, wouldn't this be a good time fur him to show up and save time?" he asked, as he leaned on his rifle and looked around him.

No one showed up. The Yankee liked the town and sent for his family. The people liked the Yankee and made him postmaster, and he stuck there until five years ago.

A GREEN ONE.

He Buys a Prairie-Dog Town for a Mink Colony.

"There are some mighty green men in this world," said the passenger from the West, "and I struck one of 'em a week or two. If I hadn't I wouldn't be here now. Last spring I went out into Western Nebraska and homesteaded a quarter section. I hadn't seen the land, but took it supposin' it was all right. But when I got there I found it already inhabited. About 150 acres of the 160 were covered with a prairie-dog town. Well, I concluded to settle down and see what I could do, and I'm mighty glad now that I did. About two weeks ago I was up to the railroad station trying to get trusted for some bacon and flour and terbacker, an' feelin' right smart discouraged. I was out of money and grub, and the winter was comin' on fast, an' I couldn't see any way out of it but to eat prairie dogs, and they're mighty hard to catch. But that day was the turning point in my luck. While I was at the station an' Englishman got off the cars, an' said as how he was out west lookin' for a place to make an investment. Said he'd heard o' the fur business, an' wanted to know if he was out in the fur country yet.

"'Furs,' says I, there hain't no't'—an' just then an idea struck me, an' I changed my tune. 'Furs,' says I, there ain't no better fur country than this on 'arth. Just come out to my place till I show you my fur farm.'

"And he went out with me, an' I showed him the prairie-dog town, an', as luck would have it, it was a bright, sunny day, an' the dogs was out scootin' around by the hundreds.

"'Talkin' about furs,' says I, 'what d'ye think of that? I've been six years growin' those mink, an' hain't sold a hide. It's all natural grease. Guess they's 'bout seven thousand of 'em now, an' they double every year. How many will there be in ten years?'

"You oughter seen that Englishman's eyes open as he took out his pencil an' figured it up. He made it 7,168,000 mink.

"'Well,' says I, 'call it 5,000,000, to be on the safe side. It won't cost $1 to keep 'em, either, an' if they're worth a cent they're worth $1 a piece. There's millions in it.'

"Then we got right down to business, an' in less than an hour I had sold out for $7,000 cash, an' the next day I paid $320 for the homestead at the Land Office, got my patent, and transferred it to him and took the first train for the east. Step into the buffer with me, partner, an' take a drink."—*Chicago Herald.*

An Astonished Ticket Agent.

The Honesdale (Pa.) *Dispatch* relates that a few days ago a neatly dressed, fresh-looking woman, about 30 years of ago, applied to Harry Foster, the Erie ticket agent in that place, for information as to the lowest rate of fare for herself and family to Warren, Pa.

"How many persons?" asked the agent.

"Myself and my eleven children," she said.

As soon as Agent Foster could catch his breath, he exclaimed:

"Eleven children! Great Scott, madame! Not all yours?"

"Certainly, sir," replied the woman, evidently surprised at the agent's question and manner. "Whose would they be if not mine?"

"In the name of goodness, then, how old are they?" asked the agent, mopping the perspiration from his forehead.

"Well, sir," said the woman, after a short mental calculation, "three of them are 9, three of them are 7, two of them are 5, and three of them are 3 years old."

Agent Foster dropped into a chair as though some one had hit him with a club.

"Madam," said he, "you deserve to have a pass far twelve. Come in again in a few days, and I'll see what can be done."

The agent ascertained that the woman's name was Cullen, and that she had presented her husband with eleven children at four births.

Miscellany.

TELL HER,

And Ten Chances to One She Will Find Light.

Philadelphia News.

It is not infrequent that a wife mourns over the alienated affections of her husband when she has made no effort herself to strengthen and increase the attachment. She thinks because he once loved her he ought always to love her, and she neglects those attentions which engaged his heart. Many a wife is thus the cause of her own neglect and sorrow. The woman deserves not a husband's love who will not greet him with smiles when he returns from the labors of the day, who will not try to chain him to his home by the sweet enchantment of a cheerful heart. There is not one in a thousand so unfeeling as to withstand such an influence and break away from such a home." This is the man's story.

A woman's advice is generally worth having, so if you are in trouble tell your mother, or your wife, or your sister all about it. Be assured that light will flash upon darkness. Women are commonly judged inexperienced in all but pure womanish affairs. No philosophical students of the sex thus judge them. Their intuitions or insight are the most subtle, and if they cannot see a cat in the meal there is no cat there. A man should keep none of his affairs from his wife. Many a home has been saved and many a fortune retrieved by a man's full confidence in his wife. Woman is far more a seer and a prophet than man, if she be given a fair chance. As a general thing, wives confide the minutest of affairs to their husbands. The men who succeed are those who make confidants of their wives." This is the wife's story.

Mr. Vanderbilt and His Architect.

Mr. Vanderbilt never gave a thought to an artist's or an architect's reputation. He couldn't understand why a man should complain of a change in his plans which would injure him, so long as the owner and employer paid for it. When the plans for his big house were in course of preparation, he was urged by his architect to prepare for a larger dining room than he was contemplating.

"Why," said the man of art, "you couldn't give banquets in such a room."

"Oh, d——n banquets. I'm not going to give any."

"But you must. A man can't live in such a house as you are building without giving large entertainments."

"Well, if I give any," said Vanderbilt, "I'll give them in the picture gallery."

The picture gallery adjoined the dining room, so the butler's pantry was arranged to open into both rooms. But one morning, when the walls of the great house had gone up two stories, Mr. Vanderbilt made his appearance in his architect's office. Hunt was building William K.'s house, and was giving the young man a noble banquet hall, 30 feet high, and splendid, with carving.

"Why, my son's dining room's going to be bigger than mine," shouted the excited millionaire, wiping the perspiration from his brow. "I can't have that, anyhow," he continued.

"I thought this was all settled, I thought——"

"Oh, no matter about that. I won't have my son's dining room bigger than mine. How much will it cost to change mine and make it bigger?"

"A good deal," answered the architect. "There will have to be new foundations, the walls that are up will have to be taken down, and——"

"What do I care for that? How much will it cost."

The architect made some figures, and told Mr. Vanderbilt that it would cost $30,000.

"Well, go on and do it," was the answer.

But the architect objected. He told Mr. Vanderbilt that to tear down the walls would hurt his reputation. People would think that there had been a defect in his plans. The Croesus heard this in open-mouthed astonishment, and when the architect at last asked:

"What will the sidewalk committee say?" answered:

"What is that to you? Don't I pay for it?"

Type-writing and Love.

Type-writing has its advantages. For business purposes it is excellent; but it must be admitted that there is something cold and chilling in a friendly letter written with this machine. There is a lack of the personality which is conveyed by the handwriting of a friend. Its effect, so used, is distinctly disagreeable, and we can hardly imagine any one, however bad his handwriting, being so filadvised as to employ a type-writer for the purpose of conveying a proposal of marriage—unless, indeed, he did so with a deliberate eye to breaking off the engagement—if formed—since it would be impossible for a plaintiff to swear to his handwriting. There would be no flavor

Recent Literature.

The Christmas number of *Harper's Weekly* is rich in fine illustrations and excellent reading matter. "A Christmas Fantasy" is a spirited picture, the subject of which is very quaint and the execution laughable. "Christmas in Camp" is another one that will appeal to many who have friends away from the home fireside in the lumber regions and elsewhere. The number is an excellent remin ler of the fast approaching holidays.

The Christmas issue of "Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper" comes clothed in a brilliant covering, while within the illustrations all remind one that the season of snow and frost is here. "Christmas Bells" are ringing loudly, and Jack Frost's "Christmas Decorations" are beautiful. The prettiest picture of all, however, is "The Little Mischief Maker," a cherub child with lovely face, holding in one hand a bird's nest with three eggs within, while the mother bird is perched upon the shoulder, with outstretched wings and open beak, as if in remonstrance. The number is very rich in good things.

From Prang & Co., Boston, come a package of Christmas cards which have the beauty of design and execution that are usual in his work. One of marked excellence for its harmony of coloring, is one of the fine prize cards for this year, the infant Jesus lying upon his mother's breast while angels are keeping guard near. The variety of designs in these exquisite souvenirs is something marvelous. The encouragement given artists by Mr. Prang in offering prizes and in other ways, explains the matter.

"Sunrise on the Soul" by Hugh Smith Carpenter, D. D., author of "Here and Beyond" is made up of 52 distinct papers, each one full of choice thoughts well expressed. It has been said of the book that it contains for preachers unique topics for sermons of unusual interest, while the ordinary readers will find on each page rare passages that they will desire to read again in order to fix them in their memory. The volume was brought out by Funk & Wagnalls, New York.

From the same house comes a new and revised edition of "A Library of Religious Poetry," edited by Philip Schaff, D. D., L. L. D. and Arthur Gilman, M. A., two names which are of themselves guarantees of the high order of the work. The selections are judicious, including the best translations of the classic sacred poems, and the choicest from the modern poets. They are not confined to any denomination or country, but are representative of all. It is a work that will be highly appreciated by every scholar, and must take a valued place in his library. The book contains over 1,000 large octavo pages, is illustrated by full page steel engraving of many of the most noted writers, and is neatly printed and substantially bound. There is a complete index of authors and subjects, and also one of first lines, so that any poem can be turned to immediately. Price $6.

Funk and Wagnalls also give us "The Peoples Bible: Discourses upon Holy Scripture," by Dr. Joseph Parker. The present volume is the first of a series, but is complete in itself. Its subject is "The Book of Genesis," and it has been treated in a clear, racy, concise, and yet exhaustive manner. There are strength and keen insight upon every page, showing the deep thinking which has been given to the matter. It will bear more than a single reading. Careful study will be amply rewarded. The style is sometimes sarcastic, humorous or severe, but it is always genial and kindly. The remaining volumes will be looked for with interest.

"The History of Bimetalism in the United States," by J. Laurence Laughlin, Ph. D., brought out by D. Appleton & Co., New York, is something more than appears from the subject. It also deals with matters of economic principle, which is a necessity in giving the history of an economic subject. The author has, however, avoided the use of technical terms, and the volume is interesting to the ordinary reader. The various arguments of Bimetallists and Monometallists are given, followed by the history of both silver and gold. The cause of the fall in the value of silver is treated of and the silver legislation of late years.

From the same house comes another volume of "English Worthies" edited by Andrew Lang. The subject is "Charles Darwin," and the author Grant Allen. It is a concise but interesting account of the life of a great man, and an original thinker, who did much to push the world forward in the path of progress. It will be read with interest, especially by those who have perused his works with pleasure.

"The Rabbi's Spell," by Stuart C. Cumberland, and "The Master of the Mine," by Robert Buchanan, are two paper bound stories sent out by the Appleton's. The first is a Russo-Jewish romance, full of tragedy but ending with the happiness of the hero and heroine. The second is of absorbing interest. The writer is favorably known in the field of fiction, and he has given his readers a well written story, with which an hour can be very pleasantly whiled away.

Harper and Brothers, New York, have added to their classical series "The Sixth and Seventh Books of Thucydides," by W. A. Lamberton, professor of Greek in the Lehigh University. The introductory essay is full of interest, giving as it does the best of what is known of the Greek historian. Full explanatory notes are added, and good indexes, so that the work seems to be exactly what is needed by scholars. It adds another to the excellent books that have gone before in the series.

The same publishers send "The Great Poets as Religious Teachers," by John H. Morrison. After the opening essay upon "The Imagination in Religion," which is well written, exhaustive analyses of the works and character of Dante, Shakespeare, Goethe and the Old Testament writers are given, ending with "The Ideal Teachings of Jesus," and a summary of the ideas advanced in the preceding essays. The book is worth reading.

"White Heather," a novel, by William Black, published by Harper & Brothers, is full of the breezy Highland air, which is so peculiarly a part of all of the author's writings. It is a pretty story quaintly told, which will be read from beginning to end with a warm glow at the heart. There is not a bit of tragedy in the whole, but it is a simple little love story that tarrills with its truth and beauty.

From G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, come "Cuban Sketches," by J. W. Steele. This forms one of the "Travelers Series," published in paper covers by this house. It is a very pleasantly written little book, giving a great deal of information about the island and the every-day life of its people which can not be obtained from general history.

The same publishers have also brought out "The Industrial Situation and the Question of Wages. A Study in Social Physiology," by J. Schoenhof, a book written in the interest of Free Trade. It is an addition to the literature upon that subject, which contains a strong presentation of facts selected for the purpose of carrying out the author's theory. Mistaken as we hold him to be, he has been exceedingly ingenious in what he has presented in this volume.

"Humor in Animals" is a series of studies in pen and pencil, by W. H. Beard, who is well known as an artist of ability. The subject is one of exceeding interest to those who have watched animals and know how strangely human they sometimes are in their expressions of feeling. Mr. Beard shows by facts, aided by drawings, that very many creatures have a sense of humor almost as keen as that belonging to humanity. The book is well gotten up and ought to meet with a warm welcome. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, have brought it out.

"Miss Belinda's Friends" by Mary Devereil Chollis, is another one of those books issued by the National Temperance Society and Publication House, New York, to convey a moral in an interesting way. It shows how much can be done by one good, earnest worker in the cause even if that one be a young girl. The story should do good.

One of the loveliest of Christmas books for children this season is "Ring Around-A Rosy; A Dozen Little Girls," by Mary A. Lathbury, and published by R. Worthington, New York. The colored plates representing the little girls in their various games and adventures are beautiful and life-like while the rhymes of explanation upon the opposite page are exceedingly appropriate. The final page is very cleverly designed and well executed. After the day's games are over, the little one is sleeping sweetly while floating through her dreams are visions of the games she has played, and of the merry faces of her companions. The cover is exceedingly tasteful. The price is $2.

"Worthington's Annual for 1886," is a volume containing interesting stories, biographies, and papers on natural history for the young, which are illustrated by upwards of 500 engravings by good artists. The intermingling of the colored pictures with those in black and white, makes a pleasing variety and will give the youngsters great pleasure. The volume is a very handsome one. It comes from R. Worthington, New York.

Fords, Howard & Hulbert, New York, publish "Infant Philosopher: Stray Leaves from a Baby's Journal," by T. S. Verdi, M. D., in a paper cover which contains not only entertainment but food for thought. The author has gained a high reputation for his interpretation of the instincts, weaknesses and needs of infancy. The quaint way in which he presents matters from the child's standpoint, is very pleasing. Parents will find this little book both profitable and comical reading.

The "Complete Poems of Charles Dickens," comes from White, Stokes & Allen, New York. Very few people realize that Charles Dickens possessed any of the spirit of poesy, but when his fugitive poems are gathered together, as they have been in this little volume, one is surprised to find how many there are. That his forte lay altogether in prose, no one will dispute, but some very pretty and musical things will be found here.

Godey's Lady's Book for January has a finely engraved frontispiece, illustrating a couplet from Goldsmith's "Deserted Village." It represents a scene in a country school a century ago, and is very telling. An extra colored fashion plate this month adds to the value of the issue. The reading matter is excellent, the fashion and work departments good. Two new departments in Science and Agriculture have been opened in the Arm Chair. Published at Philadelphia for $2 a year.

The January number of *Harper's Magazine* is rich in illustrations and reading matter. One of its notable features is the new editorial department under the conduct of Mr. Howells, entitled the "Editor's Study." In following the Easy Chair, and Mr. Curtis gracefully introduces his readers to the adjoining apartment. If the view of it given this month is to be taken through the months of the year, it will be a charming addition to the usual attractions of this always excellent magazine. It is made up of bright, humorous and suggestive literary criticism. There are also several articles of great interest in the body of the number. New York, $4 a month.

Littell's Living Age has an attractive array of articles in the numbers for the week ending Dec. 5 and 12. Among them are "Dawn of Creation and Worship," by Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone; "Dualism in Austria-Hungary," *Fortnightly Review*; "The Great Lama Temple at Peking, *Gentleman's Magazine*; "The Wesleys at Epworth, *Longman's Magazine*; "Retrospect," *Fortnightly*; "Culture and Science," *Macmillan's Magazine*; "Rambles in Canton," *Belgravia*. Boston, $8 a year. Fortnightly.

Those familiar with Demorest's Magazine always give it a warm welcome. The January number shows it to be as deserving as ever. The frontispiece and illustrations are excellent. The reading matter is more than good, while every department is full to the brim of new ideas in its special field. A very noticeable feature of this magazine is the strong grounds it takes for Prohibition, and the BLADE gladly offers it the right hand of fellowship. The strong words spoken cannot fail to bear good fruit. It has always been an excellent family magazine, but its value is thus greatly increased. New York. $2 a year.

Conspicuous among the periodicals devoted to the home and to matters particularly devoted to woman's work and influence is *The Woman's Magazine*, published at Brattleboro, Vt. The December number presents an attractive array of contents opening with "A Christmas in Vinland," There are a number of most interesting articles, among them "Social Pride an Obstacle to Woman's Work," "My Young Friend's Letter," "Two Types of Women," "Home Decorations," etc. $1 a year.

One of the first and prettiest of the Christmas annuals to appear was *The Book Buyer*, New York, in a new and artistic cover, and filled with seasonable illustrations and articles. There is a portrait and biographical sketch of Mr. Frank R. Stockton, besides reviews of the most beautiful of the holiday issues by the book trade. It is gotten up with excellent taste, and cannot fail to be prized after the holidays are over.

The Illustrated Christmas number of the *Publishers' Weekly*, New York, for 1885, is exceedingly attractive. The illustrations are very good and of large variety, gathered from very many different sources. It will be an excellent number to preserve.

An English Farm Laborer.

A farm laborer with us now goes into service at from 12 to 14 years of age. Previous to this time he is often employed during his holidays and occasional abstentions from school in field work on a farm. At first he earns about half a crown a week and his food. His wages are gradually increased until he earns 8s. or 9s. a week and his food. When he gets married, which he mostly does at from 20 to 25 years of age, he generally ceases to live in the farm-house, and his money wages are increased accordingly. He earns from 13s. to 15s. a week. If he be a wagoner, or a good workman generally, he often has, in addition to his wages, a cottage and garden rent free on the farm. He has also an extra allowance during the weeks of harvest, ranging from 16s to £1, and if he has care of the sheep an extra allowance also at lambing time. He is further allowed, free of cost, ready manured, enough of land on the farm to grow a sufficient quantity of potatoes for the year's consumption. During the performance of certain works—sowing, mowing, harvesting and the like—he has also an allowance of beer (in Herefordshire cider, perhaps). My tectotal readers may think this is a mistake, but it is the custom, and I may add for their consolation that the amount of alcohol which farm-house beer usually contains is infinitesimally small. In some cases it is the cup that neither cheers nor inebriates; but, good or bad, the men like to have it, and, as far as my experience goes, they are none the worse for it. Our agricultural laborer has still further the opportunity of earning a little more wages occasionally by "task work" in, for example, turnip or potato getting, and other works, in some of which he is often helped by his wife and children.—*British Quarterly Review.*

Woman's Home Influence.

In the last part of her "Manual of Civic and Moral Instruction for Girls," Mme. Henri Greville, who is now visiting this country, says: "In the home life of a woman—in daughter, wife and mother—the father, husband and children should read daily, as in an open book, lessons of patience, truth and affection—patience most of all. Laws, human and divine, ordain that much of a woman's life is passed in waiting. Happy for all if she can cheerfully endure the petty trials and ills that flesh is heir to. Women are naturally compassionate, overflowing with tenderness to those whom they love, but no woman fulfills her whole duty unless she is also patriotic. Women rear their sons. It devolves upon mothers to implant in the tender soul of these future citizens a deep respect for law, an undying love of country, and devotion to duty for its own sake. In the peace and quiet of the home the child has a second birth into a higher life, without which the mere physical being amounts to little or nothing.

Tennyson's "May Queen."

Who knows but if the beautiful girl who died so young had been blessed with Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" she might have reigned on many another bright May-day. The "Favorite Prescription" is a certain cure for all those disorders to which females are liable.

For the Blade.

OLD PAUL.

BY HENRY T. NILES.

Old Paul is dead, and who cares? Nobody. For Old Paul was a sloven, a glutton and a drunkard, and when he died the world said good riddance from poor rubbish. Still, Old Paul made a most respectable appearance as he passed through the village on his way to the graveyard, the most respectable he had made in it for twenty years. For, instead of his broken-down horse, in a harness tied together with strings, Old Paul was drawn by stately white horses in rich trappings, and instead of his crazy old wagon with rickety wheels and splintered shafts, Old Paul's carriage, though for some reason few like to ride in it, was in every way respectable. Nor was the poor old man visible with his slovenly dress and bloodshot eyes and burning face, and grizzled shaggy beard, for Old Paul had a driver, and rode inside, and instead of the crowd of rascally boys that were wont to follow him, deeming it rare sport to see humanity sunk so low, Old Paul was followed by a long and most respectable funeral train, for he had many relations, though no friends, and they were all most respectably dressed in mourning, though in all the sable crowd that stood around the open grave, I saw not one quivering lip or falling tear as the first earth clods fell upon the coffin's lid.

Old Paul's wife left him near twenty years ago, and the world excused her for it, for how, said the world, could any woman live with such a brute? But old Aunt Prudence shook her head at this off-hand verdict of the world. For she remembered that he was once young, dashing Paul, and Polly Jones, proud and handsome as she was, met him more than half way, as the gossips said fifty years ago, for he was rich and she was poor.

"And if the truth must be known," said Aunt Prudence, knocking the ashes from her pipe and lowering her voice to a confidential tone, as if afraid of being overheard by some tenant of the graveyard, "they do say," forgetting that the tongues once busy with such gossip, all except her own, had long been silent in the grave, "they do say Paul married for beauty and Polly for money, and you know as old Billy Bam down at the poor house says, life's wagon will go hard when there is no love to grease the wheels."

Yes, gold had dazzled and blinded the one and beauty had dazzled and blinded the other, but they soon woke up the one to the fact that for gold she had bartered her life to a coarse and brutal nature and the other to the fact that beauty, like frostwork glittering in moon-light, may be brilliant and at the same time freezing cold.

"How shockingly they have abused them pans," said Old Paul's wife the day after he was buried, on returning to the house that had been her home for more than thirty years, where her children had all been born and most of them had died.

Old Paul was, indeed, a brute, and he was well mated with one who, under such circumstances, could think of such petty trash.

But three short weeks had passed when I heard that Old Paul's wife was sick, the next day worse and the third day dead, and she passed over the same road drawn by the same richly caparisoned horses in the same much dreaded carriage, to be laid by Old Paul's side.

One day I chanced to take a walk down by old Paul's house. The spring was in its glory. The forests were clad in richest verdure. The apple trees were in full bloom and filled the air with fragrance, while the bees feeding upon their blossoms filled it with a dreamy murmur. The corn was just peeping from the ground and the rye fields began to wave in the passing breezes. The meadows were vocal with

The bobolink's clear thrilling strain
Of liquid sweetness.

The ground birds were singing in the hedges and the robins from the trees that overhung the road.

As I approached the house I noticed horses tied to the posts and groups of men standing about the doors, and heaps of old furniture scattered here and there, which reminded me that it was auction day.

It was a large, old-fashioned square house, with two ancient elms growing before it, spreading their giant branches far and wide.

In their thick, damp shade the moss had accumulated year after year until the whole front had grown quite green. There was everywhere an air of dilapidation and neglect. On all sides there were broken boards, rag-stuffed windows, rickety fences and fallen gates, proclaiming the visitation of the sheriff.

On looking around I found everything in conformity with the first view from the road. Fields half cultivated, fruit trees unpruned, fences that had caught the habits of their master and had fallen or were staggering to their fall, gates hanging by one hinge, plows with broken handles, and carts with broken wheels, manure accumulating in the barns instead of making the crops look "lush and lusty." The barns themselves ventilated by loss of boards, in the shed Old Paul's wagon, and tied to a post his old horse, apparently looking mournfully forward to his future prospects in the hands of the jockey who had bought him for ten dollars on speculation.

"Going, going at ten cents," I heard in a harsh, husky voice, "all this lot of nuts, once the pride of aunt Polly's heart, here now only twenty years ago, going, going and gone to Patrick McFadden for ten cents."

Ten cents then was the public valuation of what had occupied the thoughts of old Paul's wife to the exclusion of all the tender memories of 50 years as she returned to her old home.

At length in the house was all cleared except one room.

This room Old Paul had kept locked for twenty years, never permitting any one to enter it but himself. A jury of neighboring gossips had more than once had the subject under advisement and had brought a unanimous verdict of "strange and very mysterious."

As no one knew anything about it, every one felt free to say just what her busy fancy suggested. Some said it was haunted, and one cadaverous old maid, who had dried up in single blessedness, threw out dark hints about a pedlar who had mysteriously disappeared. Some said lights had been seen and strangely sweet music heard there more than once at the dead of night.

The children caught the infection, and, if possible, avoided passing Old Paul's house in the night, but, if at any time benighted, their fear would add wings to their feet and eyes to their imaginations and a ghost story was sure to be the result, especially if Old Paul's white horse was feeding near the house. This room also seemed to possess a strange power over Old Paul himself. He seldom visited it, and always left it greatly agitated and commonly in tears, and after such visits he had been known to be sober for weeks together.

This mystery, whatever it might be, was now about to be cleared up. A group of eager gossips had formed and gathered about the door, which had to be forced, as the key could not be found. One of the shutters, which Old Paul always kept closed, was opened to let in the light of day, and with it all that mystery vanished. Instead of a haunt for the revels of spirits of darkness or murder spots that "would not out," we saw only a large square room furnished with an air of gentility and taste that the dust of twenty years could not hide, and in strange contrast with the rest of the house.

The mistery had vanished, and with it all that coarse hilarity. Even the rollicking auctioneer stood mute, his coarse features covered with a shade of thoughtful sadness.

More than one lip quivered, and more than one hard hand brushed away an obtrusive tear as this dusty old room called up from its oblivious slumber some touching memory of the past.

There was one old woman who, in the midst of the bustle, had seemed busy with her own thoughts, and more than once her heart had seemed full as some little article was sold. I had noticed her, and inquired who she was, and they told me that her husband had once been a drunkard worse even than Old Paul, but that he had suddenly reformed and became a respectable man; that they had been miserably poor with a large family, but after his reformation became quite comfortable livers, and all agreed that she was as good a woman as lived this side of heaven.

As she entered the room her feelings quite overcame her. The tears coursed each other down the deep furrows on her cheeks.

"Yes," at length she said, "this is Nolly's room, just as she left it. What a sweet creature that was. She was an angel to me in my poverty and suffering. Hardly a day passed without her bringing over some nice little things for poor little Willy, who was sick so long. But he is well now, thank God, and they are both in heaven together. And then she had such a kind way to give anything that it would make a brown crust taste good. It was different times in this house when she was in it. I always hoped she would be able to save poor Paul, for she could do anything with him, but she saved my poor husband, for he never drank a drop after she talked to him—so like an angel as she was just before she died. He could never speak of her to the day of his death without crying. She wasn't quite 25 when she went away. I always told them she didn't belong in this world, but was only here on a visit. What a time that was the day she was buried. Everybody seemed to feel just as if they had lost one of their own family. I didn't see but our children felt just as bad as when our Katy died.

"Poor Willie cried till it seemed as if his heart would break, though she told him but the day before she left us, for poor child, suffering as she was, she seemed to be thinking of everybody but herself—to be patient and good-natured, and not to mind if he did suffer a good deal, and he would see her again before long.

"It is enough to make one want to die just to see the dear child again. But never mind, children, I shall be with you soon." As she said this she looked steadily upward and spoke in a confidential tone as if she saw those dear ones on the very border of the spiritual world, waiting impatiently for her to join them.

During this simple talk of the loving old woman, if there was a dry eye in that a minute before careless, jovial crowd, mine were subdued that I could not see it, and I felt convinced, more than I should have been by volumes of panegyrics, that from that dusty room more than twenty years ago an angel had taken her homeward flight, and that she had since been permitted occasionally to flit across Old Paul's degraded soul, if, perchance, she might yet win him from the error of his ways.

But how, thought I, could such an one grow up under such circumstances and with such surroundings? How? Why in the same way the most beautiful flower can grow and shed its fragrance under the cold droppings of the glacier.

The divine goodness is so prodigal—no, not prodigal, but profuse—in the bestowal of its gifts, that as there is no place in nature without its beauty, so there is none so morally waste and desolate that it does not produce some flower of Paradise; there is no thick mantling pool of depravity so stagnant that its waters are not sometimes stirred by the rustling of an angel's wings.

WHY THE 25TH?

Reasons That Date Was Selected for Observing Christmas.

Harper's Magazine for December.

What reason could be given for choosing one day rather than another for the Christmas festival? The gospels, always meagre in dates, were quite silent here. They gave no hint of the day or month of the nativity. Oral tradition, we may be sure, was equally reticent or indifferent. There were, indeed, a few scattered suggestions of the date of Christ's birth floating here and there among the writings of the fathers; but these were all of late origin, manifestly unhistorical, and above all, quite contradictory. Clement, of Alexandria, said that many Christians regarded the 20th of May as the day of the Nativity, others preferred the 20th of April, but he favored the 19th of November. In the Eastern Church the 5th or 6th of January was celebrated as the date of Christ's baptism, and the Nativity was joined with this on no better ground than a forced interpretation of Ezekiel i, 1-3, as a prophecy of the Incarnation. Others again fixed the 21st of March as the day of Christ's birth. Between such varying and slightly supported assumptions there was little to choose. A historical date was clearly out of question. Nothing was left for the church to do but to select some day on grounds of convenience and symbolic significance, and celebrate it by common consent as Christmas Day.

It would take too long for me to state the many reasons which led to the choice of the 25th of December. It was doubtless connected by a process of deduction with the day which had already been generally accepted as the common date of the Annunciation and of the creation of the world. Assuming that the world was made in the spring, because it was commanded to bring forth grass and herbs, and that it was made when light and darkness were equally divided, because "the evening and the morning were the first day," it was natural, though somewhat naive, to fix upon the vernal equinox (according to the Julian calender, March 25) as the exact date of the creation. He who could question the value of such a straightforward and scriptural argument as this must have had more logic and less piety than belonged to the early Christians. Nothing could be plainer. Even the least imaginative of chronographers could reckon forward from this fixed point of the Assumption nine months, and arrive at December 25 as the day of the Nativity.

The earliest mention of the 25th of December as Christmas day is found in an ancient catalogue of church festivals about 354 A. D. And it is surprising to see with what alacrity the date was received and the Nativity celebrated throughout Christendom. It seems as if the world had been waiting for this festival of divine and human childhood, and was ready to welcome it at once with songs of joy. In the year 360 it was already celebrated in Rome by vast multitudes thronging the churches.

Twenty years later Antioch had taken it up with great popular enthusiasm. And in little more than fifty years from its earliest suggestion, the observance of December 25 as the day of the Nativity had become the universal practice of Christians. St. Chrysostom, in a Christmas sermon preached at Antioch, called it the fundamental feast, or the root from which all other Christian festivals grow.

An Excellent Thought.

James Russell Lowell lately said, in an after-dinner speech, in reply to a toast made at religion, "When the microscopic search of skepticism, which had hunted the heavens and sounded the seas to disprove the existence of a Creator, has turned its attention to human society, and has has found a place in this planet where a decent man can live in decency, comfort and security, supporting and educating his children unspoiled and unpolluted; a place where age is reverenced, infancy respected, manhood esteemed, womanhood honored and human life held in due regard; when skeptics can find such a place ten miles square in this globe, where the gospel of Christ has not gone and cleared the way and laid the foundation and made the decency and security possible, it will then be in order for the skeptical literate to move thither and there ventilate their views. But so long as these very men are dependent upon the religion which they discard for every privilege they enjoy, they may as well hesitate a little before they seek to rob the Christian of his hope and humanity of its faith in that Savior who also knew and gave to man that hope of life eternal which makes life tolerable and society possible, and robs death of its terrors and the grave of its gloom."

There are certain liniments which will deaden pain, but it soon returns. St. Jacobs Oil goes to the root of the malady, and the sufferer is permanently cured. Fifty cents.

How Uruguay Butter Is Made.

One of the curious customs is the manufacture of butter. The dairyman pours the milk, while still warm, into an inflated pig or goat skin, hitches it to his saddle by a long lasso, and gallops five or six miles into town with the milk sack pounding along on the road behind him. When he reaches the city his churning is over, the butter is made, and he peddles it from door to door, dipping out the quantity desired by each family with a long wooden spoon. Though all sorts of modern agricultural machinery are used on the farms of Uruguay, no amount of persuasion can induce the natives to adopt the wooden churn. Some of the foreigners use them, but the butter is said to be not so good as that made in this curious, primitive fashion. Fresh milk is sold by driving cows from door to door along the principal streets and milking them into the jars brought out by the customers.

The Malignant Ingenuity of a Fiend

Could scarcely devise tortures more excruciating than those to which the victim of rheumatism, in the inflammatory stage, is subjected. It is also dangerous on account of its tendency toward the heart and stomach. Among the benign qualities of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, is that of expelling from the circulation those acrid impurities to which the disease is attributable. Analysis proves that, in case of rheumatism, the kidneys fail to eliminate these impurities from the blood. The Bitters, by stimulating these organs to activity, enables them to perform this all important function, and, therefore, averts the disease or remedies it at the outset. The function of digestion and secretion of bile by the liver are also healthfully stimulated by the Bitters, which conquers dyspepsia and liver complaint, and remedies fever and ague, bilious, remittent and other ailments of malarial birth. It is also the leading tonic of the age.

Is Everybody Drunk?

Among the many stories Lincoln used to relate was the following: Trudging along a lonely road one morning on my way to the county seat, Judge ——— overtook me with his wagon and invited me to a seat.

We had not gone far before the wagon began to wobble. Said I, "Judge, I think your coachman has taken a drop too much."

Putting his head out of the window, the coachman said: "Be dad! but that's the fire rightful s'cision your Honor's giv'n 'n twel'monif."

If people knew the facts they would be surprised to learn how many people reel in the streets who never "drink a drop." They are the victims of sleeplessness, of drowsy days, of apoplectic-tendencies, whose blood is set on fire by uric acid. Some day they will reel no more—they will drop dead, just because they haven't the moral courage to defy useless professional attendance, and by use of the wonderful Warner's safe cure neutralize the uric acid in the system and thus get rid of the "drunkenness in the blood"—*The American Rural Home.*

BLADE WHITTLINGS.

A PHILADELPHIA politician was recently arrested for assaulting an organ grinder in front of his residence, and the local paper adds, "there was no provocation for the assault." From this we infer that the organ-grinder was not grinding.

FOR a young man to carry a cane is a somewhat silly fashion, but he looks infinitely better swinging one than having his hands jammed to the bottom of his pockets. If a young man don't know what to do with his hands, let him employ them in handling a cane, by all means.

CANON FARRAR came to America for rest and went home with $25,000, which is the regular thing to do. Whenever an English novelist, clergyman, actor or anything wants something to live on, he, she or it comes at once to America and immediately the people furnish the funds. America has a great and very blind respect for foreigners.

A GIRL should never be given a double baptismal cognomen. When she marries, she retains her maiden name as a middle name, and three words are enough for any one's signature. Thus if the President's sister should marry, she would become Rose Cleveland Atherton, let us say. As a man does not add a name by marriage, a double name is well enough for a boy; but one is sufficient for a girl.

Two medical journals are fighting over chewing gum. One thinks it preserves the teeth, develops the gums, and should be encouraged; the other points out the injurious draught upon the salivary glands and digestive organs, and its crushing effect upon female loveliness. All the same, the under-side of mantels in the majority of houses are ornamented with chews hastily stuck there when the cheerful bell announces dinner. The average American girl chews gum and will continue, no matter what the medical journals do or say. They rise above medical journals in corsets and things, and why not in chewing gum?

A POPULAR craze, which has not yet reached Toledo to any violent degree, is that for foreign novelties, Indian, Turkish, Chinese and Japanese, particularly the latter. At a fair in New York lately all the ladies were dressed in Japanese costumes, and there were Mikado gowns and hats and stockings and—well, we don't know where the Mikado garments stopped and the American began. The more expensive grades of these Oriental stuffs are well worth having, but there are a great many which are too *bizarre* for tasteful dress. The desire at present seems to be to look picturesque, and in the effort good taste is sometimes sacrificed.

WHAT has become of the phonograph? It was an invention full of promise, and the road to its perfection seemed plain. Voice and sound were to be treasured up, to be reproduced at pleasure. The literary works of the masters were to be "talked into" the instrument by the best elocutionists, the sound-scribbled tin foil was to be electrotyped, the phonograph made to run by clockwork or electricity, to repeat them for one's ears. The words and music of operas and songs, sung by the greatest primedonne, were to be reproduced in the same way; the overtaxed eyes of the people were to be relieved. Where is Edison, that he does not perfect this blessing for us?

MOST people are prone to jest over bald heads, to make a joke of shining crania. But are those who indulge in this style of pleasantry aware that idiots, weak-minded persons and cranks always have at least the average amount of hair, and that, in the former cases, at least, bald heads are unknown? This is a physiological, a scientific fact, and should shield the hairless crowns from unthinking laughter; for it's a poor rule that don't work both ways—and if a feeble brain is always well thatched over with hair, it follows that one beneath a bald crown is not feeble, to say the least. And it is a fact that many of the brainiest men of renown are bald-headed.

IF the regular young man about town will, to-morrow morning, take a pencil and set down what he has expended for nothing, or worse than nothing, and foot up the rather long column, he will discover that the sum total would more than pay the necessary expenses of the young lady whom he would like to marry, but does not for fear that he cannot support her. When he comes to try the experiment of marriage, he will, sooner or later, be will discover that two can be supported at the expense of one, provided the one of the two is the right kind of a woman. If she is not the other one should not marry her at all, if she was worth a million. No young man gets on well, living alone. It isn't a natural thing.

"FASHION has made one change in the entertaining of company," said a society lady the other day, "which is a great relief to the hostess. Formerly it was excessively rude not to make formal adieux on departing, but now, at receptions or large parties, it is not considered necessary, so that another course of handshakings is not entailed upon the already exhausted entertainers, whose arms feel as if just ready to drop from their sockets. Now if everybody would only fall into the custom, which obtains in London and some of the Eastern cities, of sending invitations by post, another great labor would be saved, and the object be attained just as surely. In these days of rush, all society exactions that can be diminished without friction, ought to be, and people who are in a position to set a sensible example, should make it a point to do so for the general good."

AMONG all the bores that afflict humanity the fellow who thinks he must show his friendly feeling by talking to you comes mostly is perhaps the worst. Conversation in a railway car is fatiguing; both speaking and hearing require an effort. You enter a car and drop into a seat, wishing only to be let alone, that you may revolve some important matter in your mind at leisure, or perchance lose yourself in dreamy reverie. Along comes some loud-mouthed friend, grinning his pleasure at meeting you. You hope he will exchange a greeting and pass on. Vain delusion! He drops into the vacant seat at your side, and a ceaseless storm of gabble pelts your eardrums for the next forty or fifty miles. Then, too, why can we not drop in on a friend, and after a few minutes of talk, sit in silence if we wish, or pick up a book or paper and begin to lay himself, and read while? The mere presence of another person is enough to banish all feeling of loneliness, and silence is often far more eloquent than perpetual prattling.

OLD SAXON and Norman names for girls, such as Gladys, Elfrida, Wilfreda, Enid, Ethel, Clarice, Rosabel, Christabel and Claribel, are again becoming popular. People are growing tired of the endless number of Mamies, Jennies, Fannies, Lillies, *et id omne genus*, and there promises to be a renaissance of the odd though often pretty feminine names of the olden time. There is a class of people, too, in this free land of ours, who name their children from the fanciful appellations of the heroines of the sensational novels which form their literary pabulum. Names originated by authors enter very largely into our personal nomenclature. The writer knows a lady who has struggled through more years than she is willing to acknowledge under the baptismal cognomen of "Haidee," bestowed by her father, a great admirer of Lord Byron's poetry, and who named her after the heroine of "Don Juan." In fact, the vagaries of naming children are endless. A fanciful name for a girl sometimes becomes an embarrassment when she marries, as was the case with the pretty daughter of a Mr. Rose, who named her "Wild." "Wild Rose" was fanciful enough; but the girl married a gentleman named Hogg. The combination was fearful—Wild Hogg!

—Recognizing the superior excellence of the St. Louis Magazine, we have arranged to furnish it with the WEEKLY BLADE at the low price of $1.75 a year for both publications, the Magazine, under its large and improved condition, being $1.50 alone. Sample copy of Magazine and set of beautiful gold colored picture cards sent to any one for 10 cents. Address C. J. Gilmore, 213 N Eighth street, St. Louis, Mo.

The Camp Fire.

Chat Around the Fire.

G. I. Short, Hillsdale, Ind.:

My father was in Co. I, 43d Ind., and I would like to hear from some of the members of his old regiment. Let the Republican ticket be Logan and Sherman in 1888, and we will see the good times promised by the Democrats during the last election.

"True Blue," Greenwood, Kan.:

Sitting around the CAMP FIRE a long time and not hearing anything of the noble boys of the 38th Wisconsin, I will throw on a few rails and keep the fire blazing with the expectation of having more of the boys come to the front. We were known among our comrades as "the good men from Omaha;" the reason of this title I cannot say. I was in the battle of Gettysburg. I will limit my description until I hear from some of the boys. I should like to hear from Comrade Geo. Gale, Co. E, 38th Wis.; also Geo. Smith, Co. F, same regiment. I am a reader of the BLADE, and will vote in 1888 as I shot. Then hurrah! boys for Logan, and we will conquer as we did before.

James K. Ashley, Rushville, Ills.:

If the CAMP FIRE will give the 20th Indiana battery one more shot, we will limber up and fall back. I have read in several papers about the fat meat Southern soldiers had to eat in Northern prisons. I want to give the bill of fare of Cahaba, and how it was prepared. We drew no regular rations of meat, and when we got them they were very small and thin. I have seen Northern boot soles as thick as Cahaba side-meat. When we drew our pitiful allowances we fried it generally in the half of a canteen, that served as a frying pan on the end of a split stick. When fried it was only visible at short range. For a day's rations we got a pint of coarse, unbolted corn meal. This was mixed with water and stirred up in the canteen pan and baked until half done over a rich pine blaze. This would give it a turpentine flavor, with enough lampblack to form an artificial crust to hide the sharp, flat husks in the meal that made it black, like a porcupine bristling for a fight. We drew about a gill of what they called stock peas. These contained about all of the animal food we got, if we could call the insects that inhabited these peas animals. Each individual pea had quite a cavity if you removed this animal that in size and looks might have been taken for a cross between a horse fly and a grayback. We were good at figuring profit and loss, so we only went one eye on bugging peas, while the other eye was looking out for something with which to season the peas.

J. D. Leisure, Lansing, Mich.:

I am a soldier's son, and I vote the straight Republican ticket, and always will as long as there is a Republican party. My father was a private in Co. E., 11th W. Va. He enlisted in July, 1862, and served until June 17, 1865. Should this come before any of my father's comrades, I hope they will respond at once and write up some of the famous battles they engaged. My father's name is Daniel Leisure.

Another one of the comrades, J. A. M. Agt, Barker Creek, Mich., has written a letter to CAMP FIRE, but unfortunately for us he has used both sides of the sheet. Observe the rule and write only on one side of the sheet if letters are written for publication.

C. B. Baker, Cherryvale, Kan.:

I enjoy sitting around the CAMP FIRE and hearing the experience of old comrades. I occasionally see the signature of a personal acquaintance. The last such, I believe, was Capt. T. J. Bryant, in whose company I had a brother, David Baker, Co. D, 14th Ill. This brother endured the privations of that loathsome prison pen, Andersonville, for more than a year. After being reduced to a mere skeleton, he was exchanged and started for his home, but never reached it. He was seen at Vicksburg by some of his old regiment. The records at Springfield, Ill., show that he died April 18, 1865, but we could never learn where or how. One report says at Vicksburg, another on board the ill-fated steamer Sultana. Now, if comrade James R. Ashley, of the 20th Indiana battery, who wrote to the CAMP FIRE of his escape from the burning steamer, Sultana, remembers seeing him, I will feel very grateful for any information he can give me. Can any one seeing this tell me whether he died upon the land and received a soldier's burial, or fell a victim in the Sultana disaster?

Fred G. Walters, Pescadero, Cal.:

It is but natural that recollections and recitals of events which were enacted twenty years ago should be remembered and recited differently by different parties. Certain it is, that some of the war have stamped themselves indelibly upon our minds never to be erased; and thanks to the BLADE, the CAMP FIRE affords us opportunity for a mutual exchange of recollections, but let us avoid the error of stating personal recollections in a manner calculated to convey the impression that the statement is an official fact, and thereby do an injustice to some other member or members (as seems to be the case in the Bentonville recitals). Our regiment (the 7th Iowa) was at Bentonville. We built a temporary line of works and occupied them one night and part of a day. We were under fire but were not actively engaged. One scene witnessed on that field I can never forget. At a certain point, which had previously been the contested ground of the opposing skirmish lines, we found a rude table erected. Upon this table lay the fleshy part of a man's leg, taken from between the knee and thigh. Laing upon the ground were two dead rebels. They had been wounded and brought to this temporary hospital for treatment no doubt. The surg

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases, but, when specially requested, they will not be published.

2. No questions will be paid to mathematical problems, questions of ornamental construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals or firms.

3. Communications for this department must be written on a separate sheet, directed to "Question Bureau," and must contain no business with these questions. Do not ask a question and then proceed to argue it. If we can answer it, and deem it of sufficient general interest, it will be answered. It is useless to request an answer by the mail. The questions before us always fill, and never exceed the limit of the department.

4. This department is not intended to settle petty disputes or solve puzzles. Replies to questions propounded for mere personal gratification reserve the right to exclude a reply. In all matter for this department persons transcend the bounds of common politeness will receive the slightest attention, unless the first and third rules above are strictly complied with.

THE SCOTCH BOULDER.

D. N., Caldwell, O.:

Write a letter which gives information on the subject of the Scotch boulder in Canada and the Northwest.

Beyond the reach of the Mound Builders were the ancestors of the former in the region of which Lake Superior is the center. The Indians of North America, save Mexico and Central America, were nomadic hunters, consequently had no permanent dwellings. Those in the Northwest were of the Algonquin stock, which had extended from the Atlantic to the Mississippi. It was the same people seen by Champlain and by Hennepin, by Marquette and by Hearne, by Carver and by Long, for there has been no material change in their habits. Most of the Indians in the region mentioned roamed, hunted and fished, and lived in wigwams. In 1820 they numbered 2,000 souls, and in 1850 about 4,000. Their descendants are now estimated at 8,000. They are divided into bands, each of which has a chief. The area of its level summit measures four acres. There was a ditch around it, and near it are smaller mounds. Dr. N. W. Dacanson, in the authority of Dr. Dickenson mentions angular tumuli, with corners "filled quite perfectly," and circular "forced up by the ingenious contrivance of human hands." In Louisiana, near the Trinity, there is a great inclosure partially faced with sun-dried bricks of large size; and in this neighborhood discoveries of mounds have been extensive. In the Southern states these works appear to assume a closer resemblance to the mound-work of Central America. "Ancient America," by John D. Baldwin, A. M., which we quote from the above facts, is an interesting little book of 200 pages, which can be ordered through Brown, Eager & Hull, Toledo, O.

SCRIVENING.

Sub., O'Neil, Nebs.:

1. What is meant by "range," and what by "meridian" or "principal meridian." 2. What terms are used in describing the location of land? 3. Where can I get a work by an American author on banking?

1. These questions were answered about a year ago, but the information is given again. The extensive territories of the United States are surveyed upon a peculiar system, planned with reference to the division of the lands into squares of uniform size; so arranged that any tract of 160 acres, or a "quarter section," may have its distinct designation and be readily found upon the map or recognized upon the ground by the marks left by the surveyors. Each great survey is based upon a new point in the line of the meridian, and astronomical measurements the whole extent of the survey in these directions, and upon a "standard parallel" or base line running east and west. Parallel to these lines are run every six miles, usually with the solar compass corrected by frequent celestial observations; and thus, as nearly as they are able, are the earth's curves followed. The country is divided into squares of six miles north and south and the same east and west, each one containing 36 square miles or sections, into which the territory is further divided by parallel lines and pickets at every mile, while the half mile being marked on these lines by setting what is called a quarter post, the points are established for the subdivision into quarter sections. The squares of 36 miles are termed townships, often contracted into "towns," and each line of them east and west is numbered either north or south from the base line, and each line of them north and south is termed a range and is numbered east or west from the meridian. The north and south lines bordering the townships are known as range lines, and the east and west as township lines. Each survey is designated by the meridian on which it is based, and of these principal meridians there are six designated by numbers and eighteen by special names. The following table, compiled from information published in the General Land Office in August, 1875, gives the designation of the meridians, their longitude west from Greenwich, and the north latitude or other description of the principal base lines:

Designation of Principal Meridian.	Longitude West from Greenwich.	Latitude North or Principal Base Lines.
First, boundary between Ohio and Indiana	84° 51'	
Second, through Indiana	86° 10'	
Third, through Illinois	88° 10' 53"	
Fourth, N. from mouth of Illinois river	90° 25' 56"	38° 58' 13"
Fifth, N. from mouth of Arkansas river	90° 28'	Mouth of St. Francis R.
Sixth	91° 28'	40°
Michigan	84° 19' 9"	7 m. N. of Detroit.
Tallahassee	84° 18'	Tallahassee, Fla.
St. Stephen	88° 2'	31°
Huntsville	86° 31'	N. boundary of Alabama
Choctaw	89° 10' 30"	29 m. S. of Jackson, Miss
Washington	91° 5'	
St. Helena, S. from base	90° 11'	31°
Louisa	92° 20'	31°
New Mexico	106° 52' 5"	34° 19'
Great Salt Lake	111° 5' 47"	40° 46' 4"
Boise	116° 3'	43° 46'
Mt. Diablo	121° 54'	37° 53'
San Bernardino	116° 26'	34° 6'
Humboldt	124° 11'	40° 25' 50"
Willamette	122° 44'	45° 5'
Montana	112° 15' 46"	45° 46' 27"
Gila and Salt river	112° 15' 46"	33° 22' 57"
Indian	87° 13' 16"	34° 31'

The 36 sections of each township are numbered in order, beginning with the northeast corner and below proceeding along the north side of the town-hip to section 6 in the northwest corner; section 7 begins the next line of sections south, the numbers running east to 12 and then beginning the third line with 13 and running west to 18, and so on, bringing No. 36 in the southeast corner of the township. The quarter sections are designated by their position as N. E., N. W., S. E., and S. W. Sections and tracts of irregular shapes are admitted on the borders of lakes, rivers, etc. With these explanations, any tract may be readily pointed out upon the government maps from its abbreviated description, or any locality in the wildest territory may be correctly defined; thus the S. W. qr. sect. 13, T. 66 N., R. 34 W., meridian Michigan, is traced directly to an old mining location near the northeastern extremity of Isle Royale, Lake Superior. 2. Brown, Eager & Hull, Toledo, O.

SLATE.

G. B. S., Kingwood, W. Va.:

1. What machinery is necessary to prepare slate for roofing? 2. What is the process of manufacturing the same?

1-2. These questions were answered some time ago. Slates are quarried either by blasting out large slabs, or when practicable, splitting them off with gads and large wedges. The slabs from a foot to a foot and a half thick, and it may be 8 or 10 feet long and 1 or 2 feet wide, are set on edge, and grooves are cut across the top and down the sides to determine the lines of fracture for separating them into rectangular blocks, which is done by blows from a wooden beetle directed upon the top near the furrow. The splitting is effected by driving wide, thin chisels between the laminæ, and the sizes of the slates are reduced whenever desirable by cutting cross grooves and then breaking the pieces with the chisel. When slates are required thinner, the slates are roughly dressed over the edge of a block of wood by the blows of a sort of chopping knife called a ss. k, sax, or x-x. On the back of this tool is a sharp in curving steel point, with which the workman in splitting readily slates picks two holes through the slates near what is to be the head or upper edge, for the nails which are to bolt it down to the roof. As the slates are split they are applied to certain grooves in the slate in the bed to facilitate the quarrying, and the cutting and trimming are also done by machinery. It is important that all this work should be done while the blocks are from the bank, and in driving they are apt to lose their property of splitting freely, though freezing may restore this; but a succession of frosts and thaws has the effect of rendering them useless. Slabs for formal decoration, as mantelpieces, and for articles of furniture, as table tops, billiard tables, sinks, etc., are cut by ingle saws which are made to revolve slowly. Files set with diamond dust are also used for the finer work, and powders similar to those used for all fine metals, and pieces for moldings are shaped by tools of the desired figure. Various ornamental articles are prepared of slate in imitation of marbles, granites, and other stones, by the application of colors which are baked in, varnished, and polished, the application being several times repeated. Slate pencils are made from argillaceous slate or it, and from soapstone. Large quantities are sometimes made from various materials ground together and compressed.

THE ALPHABET—PAUL REVERE.

J. E. H., St. Clous, W. Va.:

1. How many letters are there in the German alphabet? 2. Can a man become proficient in Greek in one year? 3. Who was Paul Revere, and what did he do?

1. We cannot answer to other questions on this subject. 2. Probably not. 3. Who was Paul Revere, and what did he do?

1. We cannot answer to other questions on the

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., PUBLISHERS. | D. R. LOCKE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24.

☞ ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT TOLEDO AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

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TEACHING CHILDREN THE CURRENT NEWS.

Some few public school teachers in the East, masters in their profession, spend a short time each day in discussing the news from the columns of some good daily. This is a very commendable feature. It not only keeps the pupils in a measure abreast of the world's history, but it furnishes a medium for much useful study and instruction in geography, arithmetic, commerce, philanthropy, in fact, hundreds of matters in which it is good for them to be interested. It relieves them for a time from the drudgery of text book tasks, and imposes no additional burden. Possibly the literary quality of the selections may not always be first-class, but faulty sentences might be made themes for criticism in rhetoric and style; while it would be a good thing for the children to learn the terse newspaper way of conveying intelligence without a waste of language. Not a day passes but that some event is recorded which is full of possibilities for instruction. Supposing a teacher with a room of bright children from 12 to 16 years old, had followed the recent Parliamentary contest in Great Britain, from the telegraphic columns of the BLADE, day by day to its close, explaining things not fully understood, and answering the children's queries; how much could have been taught,—and remembered by them, too—of the English Parliament, their election laws, of the different political parties, of the meaning of the struggle, and of the burning questions which will at once come up when Parliament meets! Why will not some live, energetic teacher in our public schools try it?

AN old slander against Sen. SHERMAN was recently revived by the New York *World*, which said:

Mr. Sherman is one of the owners of a good interest in the First National bank, in New York, which owes its greatest prosperity to the Sherman influence when he was secretary of the Treasury.

To this Mr. SHERMAN responded in a letter to the *World*, which that paper publishes. The Senator says:

This statement is without the slightest foundation in fact. I do not now and never did own any stock or interest in the First National Bank of New York, and never had any personal business relations of any kind with it. I trust, as you have made this statement, you will do me the justice to promptly correct it, and to satisfy yourself, will show your usual enterprise and diligence by inquiring of the officers of the bank or any person you may wish as to the truth or falsity of the charge. The entire correspondence relating to refunding and resumption, printed in the public records, is a sufficient answer to the imputation made that the First National Bank ever had any favor or partiality shown to it by me as secretary of the Treasury. Contrary to my practice, I make this correction now, because I freely admit that if I had been a stockholder or had any interest in the First National Bank during these refunding transactions I would have been properly subject to censure, but, as the charge is totally unfounded, I think I can appeal to any fair-minded man not to repeat it unless he can make some show of proof to sustain the charge.

COMMISSIONER of Navigation DALTON denies that our revenue marine is going to decay. It stands second among the nations of the world, while our coasting trade, including river and lake tonnage, is the largest in the world. As the United States is in a condition to feed the populations of a great part of the world, iron ships of the best quality are needed to compete with the vessels of England and France, and it becomes a matter of the first importance to give such encouragement on the part of our government as shall promote the industry of iron shipbuilding. In the opinion of the commissioner the time has arrived for Congress to take charge of the whole question of pilotage in the interest of the pilots themselves and others concerned. The commissioner also recommends the establishment of an apprentice system. It is said to be hard to find crews to man ships, many of the sailors of to-day being landsmen, unable even to hand or reef or steer.

THE Democratic press is very anxious to have Attorney General GARLAND'S proposal adopted for the relief of the Supreme court—the organization of an intermediate court of appeals. They fail to explain the fact that the DAVIS bill was, during the administration of Pres. ARTHUR, defeated by the Democrats, for the reason that they were unwilling to permit the judges, for whom it provided, to be appointed by a Republican executive.

THE Virginia legislature has elected JOHN W. DANIEL United States Senator to succeed MAHONE in 1887. The vote stood 70 to 28 in the House of Delegates, and 29 to 18 in the Senate.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

BUSINESS for the past week has been excellent. The trade in holiday goods is the heaviest for three years past. Manufacturers of all staple lines of seasonable goods report reduced stocks, with some leading lines all sold in advance of production. This is a cheering feature, for the new year will open with supply and demand about equal. The producers of cotton and woolen goods are learning the lesson of experience, and will not allow their production to exceed the supply—a plan that will in many ways benefit them. In the retail trade, there is a tendency toward higher prices, and those who buy now will likely get lower prices than will rule in the early spring.

MR. HOAR'S bill providing for the filling of the Presidential chair in the event of a possible vacancy in the offices of President and Vice President, passed the Senate Thursday, without amendment. It will meet with some opposition in the House, it seems. Mr. RANDALL has prepared a bill for the purpose which provides that presidential electors shall hold their offices four years and that whenever in case of the removal, death or resignation of the President, the Vice-President shall have become President, the electors shall meet in their respective states and choose another Vice-President.

THE bill giving Mrs. Gen. GRANT a pension of $5,000 a year has passed both houses of Congress.

THE memorial to Congress of the Dakota Constitutional convention has been presented in the Senate, with a draft of the constitution under which admission to the union is asked. Mr. HARRISON announced that he would at an early date introduce a bill to confer statehood on the territory. Now let us see what Congress will do. Dakota has ample population, is all respects in a thriving condition, and there is not the slightest reason why she should not be admitted as a state. If she is not, it will be because she is Republican in politics.

IF DAKOTA is admitted to statehood, as she should be, G. C. MOODY and A. J. EDGERTON will be her first United States Senators, the state legislature having chosen them. Both are Republicans, of course.

MR. BROWNE'S pension bill, lately introduced in the House, entitles all persons to pensions who actually served fourteen days with the army or navy of the United States in Mexico, and have reached the age of 60 years, or who are suffering from any disability, provided that such disability was not incurred in the rebellion. It also grants a pension to any person who served in the military or naval service for the period of three months during the rebellion, and who is or shall become disabled from any cause not the result of his own gross carelessness or vicious or intemperate habits. It also increases the pensions of widows and minor children from $8 to $12 per month.

ROBERT TOOMBS, the noted secessionist, is dead. He was one of the few remaining of the prominent Southern leaders in the struggle between the slave power and the opponents of its extension, in the period from the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill to the breaking out of the rebellion. We give elsewhere a biographical sketch, with portrait.

THE statement of Mr. GLADSTONE'S views on the Home Rule question seems to have caused great excitement in England. The Tories are delighted at a step which they believe will destroy his political supremacy. The Liberals are divided. Of course he carries large numbers with him, but not the strongest men of the party. The Radicals openly refuse their support to any scheme looking at local government for Ireland. They say that the time has not yet come for the Liberal party to take up the question. Meanwhile Mr. GLADSTONE denies that the announcements made in his name are in sense authorized by him, and says that if, at any time he has any plan or intention to announce on the question of the Irish Government, it will be done publicly and on his own responsibility.

IT is said that there will be 150 "fair traders," or protectionists, in the new English House of Commons. The Cobden club should devote its energies to converting these heretics, instead of trying to force an economic system which Great Britain is finding a failure upon this country.

THE Servian-Bulgarian war has been suspended for a month by an armistice. The commission appointed to fix the new boundary line between the two countries will in the meantime perform that duty and report the result for ratification to a congress of the Great Powers to be held at Vienna.

RUSSIANS are indignant over the perfidy of Germany and Austria, and the Liberal press there urges an alliance with England as the only way of settling the Eastern question and punishing them at the same time.

COMMERCE between Germany and her newly-fledged African colonies does not reach an extent at all satisfactory. The whole amount of imports and exports constitutes scarcely a half per cent. of the value of the total export and import trade of Germany. The articles exported there are almost entirely limited to brandy and gunpowder.

THE French have concluded to let Madagascar rest a season, and have suspended hostilities in order to await the result of peace negotiations.

THE German Bundesrath has approved the bill for a ship canal which will unite the Baltic with the North Sea. While this canal will be of great commercial value, it is undertaken chiefly for its military importance. It will enable the German fleet to pass from one sea to the other without the danger of falling into hostile hands in taking the present route through Skager Rack and the Cattegat, as the narrow straits between Denmark and Sweden and Norway are called. It will cost about 155,000,000 marks, and be strongly fortified. The project has been discussed by Prussia since 1865.

MATTERS in Spain are not as smooth as they might be, although the regency of Queen CHRISTINA is stoutly maintained by the Government. The coronation and proclamation of the little Queen MERCEDES has been put off until next April, in the hope that in March a son will be born to succeed to the throne. Meanwhile there are those who declare that there is no possibility of such an event, and they desire to depose Queen CHRISTINA in favor of Queen ISABELLA.

PROHIBITION IN IOWA—A FALSE REPORT AND VILLAINOUSLY FALSE CONCLUSIONS.

The Chicago *Tribune*, which upon all subjects except Prohibition, is as fair as it is able, sent one Senator SUTTON through Kansas and Iowa to investigate the workings of Prohibition in those states, and the result has been given to the world in a series of articles in that paper.

As the commissioner was sent to those states to find Prohibition a failure, it has been so found. Without giving the Senator's statements in full, the following is what he was sent there to find, and what was accordingly found:

That Prohibition is a failure, because intoxicants can be procured in those states.

That more whisky is drank in those states than before the enactment of Prohibitory laws.

The conclusion drawn from these alleged facts is that a license recognizing the sale of intoxicants is precisely what is wanted.

If Prohibition is a failure, if more liquor is drank in Iowa and Kansas under Prohibition than under license, why is it that the brewers and distillers are fighting Prohibition in those states, tooth and nail? Why is that they are sending hundreds of thousands of dollars into those states to procure the repeal of Prohibition, and the substitution of license? Do they know their business or don't they? Do they desire to decrease their sales? We shall have some faith in Sen. SUTTON when the liquor interest advocates Prohibition instead of opposing it.

It is said that figures will not lie, but they do all the same. In fact, in right hands, figures are the most intolerable liars in the world. Sen. SUTTON knows how to make them lie better than any man we know of.

It is a lie that Prohibition has not reduced the sale and use of liquors in Kansas and Iowa. The BLADE sent a commissioner to those states last spring, who was instructed to get at the exact truth. He was not sent to bolster Prohibition, but to actually find what effect Prohibition has had. He made a most thorough investigation, and wrote what he saw, exactly as he saw it. He did not use any other man's spectacles, but he put down, and afterwards printed in the BLADE, the situation as it was at the time.

His verdict was exactly what he knew it would be. Liquor selling still exists in the cities, largely, and in the country to some extent. Druggists evade the law for gain, and confirmed soaks have but little trouble, in most places, in getting all the poison they want.

But the open saloon in a vast majority of places is gone and gone for good. Prohibition has done, in a majority of the counties in Kansas and Iowa, all and more than its advocates hoped for, considering the time it has had in which to do its beneficent work. As we said, it has closed the public saloons. Liquor is sold, but it is sold in holes and corners. There are no longer the hell-traps upon every corner with their doors wide open, inviting boys and weak men to their ruin. The hunt for boys is checked. He drinks only who has had the accursed appetite fixed upon him when Rum was free, and so perilous has drinking been made that only those past hope go to the trouble to get it at all.

To get rum in those states requires a vast deal of trouble. The selling of it is illegal and disreputable. Prohibition has made it so. It is without the pale of the law. Whoso sells liquor in those states sells it in violation of law and bears the brand of a criminal. He takes chances of punishment, and where there are those who wish to see law enforced, he receives it. This prohibition has done, and if it had accomplished nothing else it would be enough—for a beginning.

Of course the law is not enforced in all places. Sioux City, for instance, has a Mayor opposed to it and he, in defiance of law, licenses saloons. That he may be consistent he licenses also gambling hells and houses of prostitution, rightly thinking that the three should go together. The citizens of Sioux City have not the nerve to suppress this official nuisance, and so the law is a dead letter.

There are other places nearly as bad, and liquor is sold more or less all over the state. But what does that prove? Nothing. Did any one expect that a law a few months old would be thoroughly enforced everywhere? Is there one stupid enough to suppose that an interest with untold millions behind it, and which is the most profitable of any on earth, was going to surrender at the first assault? Is there any one who believed that the Brewers of Milwaukee, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Toledo, who were drawing millions annually from these states were going to give up their profitable business on a mere invitation? If so they are badly mistaken.

The liquor dealers will never surrender so long as they have an inch of ground to stand upon. They are fighting for life, and the fight will be a long and stubborn one. If Prohibition is a success in Kansas and Iowa, it will be adopted by other states, and they are wise enough to see that their death knell is rung the moment one state can show the world a perfect success.

Enough has been accomplished to show that Prohibition is practicable. If it shall be demonstrated that the present laws are insufficient, what then? Why, we shall make other laws. We shall strengthen the weak points in our enactments, we shall go on cultivating public sentiment until we get it up to the point of enforcing the law. That is all. We know that Prohibition has proved a wonderful success and a blessing to the four states that have adopted it, Maine, Iowa, Kansas and Georgia. We know that it has closed thousands of saloons, we know that it has saved thousands upon thousands of boys from the pursuit of the infernal hunters of men, we know that it has driven the accursed traffic into holes and corners, but if it had not done the half that it has, we should still insist upon the demand for it. Failure proves nothing except that the laws may be imperfect, and people apathetic. The great principle remains.

It is the sworn purpose of Prohibitionists to supplant apathy with activity, to make laws that will hold, and to elect officers who will enforce them. Nobody expects to accomplish all this in a day or a year, or ten or twenty years, but it will come as sure as there is a God above us. The Liquor crime must be destroyed. Despite the Chicago *Tribune* and Senator SUTTON, Prohibition is the only way to *Puberize the Rum Power.*

SOME ELEMENTARY FACTS.

Among the many false pleas of the free trade faction, which are used to rally to their support the ignorant and unthinking classes, is that of "Down with the war tariff!" The argument—if such it can be called—is, that our present revenue system was devised to meet the war expenditures; that the war has been over for 20 years, but the taxes still remain; and that they should, therefore, be reduced.

Whether a tax should be reduced, or abolished, or changed in any way, depends upon whether the money it brings in is needed for public purposes. It is true the war is over, but it does not follow that the war expenses are all paid. Any man of sense can see the utter silliness of the free traders' argument when he looks at the last debt statement, and sees that on December 1 our total bonded debt, principal and interest—the burden the war left us—was $1,227,631,700.51. The total debt interest-bearing and non-interest-bearing, of all kinds, on that date was $1,845,927,956.45. These figures hardly give one an idea of the magnitude of the burden of debt, the legacy of the slaveholders' rebellion. The interest on the debt is *a million dollars a week*, in round numbers. The debt should be paid as speedily as possible, that this interest burden may cease. Every 25 years we pay in interest a sum equal to the total of our debt.

The gabble about free trade is as silly as any half-baked political theory that was ever sprung on the suffering people of the United States. With our load of debt, and with our heavy annual expenses (amounting in 1885 to $250,000,000, not including interest on the debt) how should we make both ends meet if these theorists were to have their way?

The public revenue, to meet expenses, and to pay debt and interest, is derived almost entirely from two sources. We give them in the following table, with the receipts in round millions for 1884:

Customs (the tariff)	$ 195,000,000
Internal revenue	121,000,000
Sales of public land	9,000,000
Profit on coinage	6,000,000
Consular, patent, and land title fees	4,000,000

There is no need of considering the three latter, as the receipts therefrom are but a drop in the bucket. The internal revenue tax is made up of that upon whisky and tobacco. There is not one man in a dozen who is in favor of taking off either of these taxes. The only agitation in favor of reducing Uncle Sam's income is that by the free traders for cutting down the customs receipts.

Omitting the customs duties, the remaining articles do not bring in half of the annual expenses of the government, including the interest on the debt. There are but to ways of raising this money: one by the tariff, as is now done; the other by a direct tax on the people by the federal government; and nobody is in favor of the latter.

"But," shrieks a free trader, "we are getting too much revenue; it is piling up in the treasury as a surplus." Indeed? Why not use it in paying the national debt, and in reducing the interest burden? The howl of a treasury surplus has lost its force since 1884. The Democratic stumpers harped on it in every county in the United States, and promised that it should be "distributed among the people" as soon as the Democrats came into power. Well, they have been in power over nine months, and the surplus is greater than it ever was under Republican administration. And, mark you, not one dollar of the bonded debt has been paid; the interest account has not been reduced a single dollar. It looks as though the Democratic theory is that a national debt is a blessing, and that they will strive to avoid paying it off. The people of the country were hoodwinked once, but they will not be again—as the Congressional elections of next fall will show.

ANOTHER BLOW AT MORMONISM.

The United States Supreme court, on Monday, in affirming the decision of the supreme court of Utah in the case of ANGUS CANNON, convicted of polygamy under the Edmunds law, dealt another crushing blow at the Mormon iniquity. Divested of its legal phraseology, the case is as follows: On May 9, 1885, CANNON was sentenced to $300 fine and six months' imprisonment, for "unlawful cohabitation with more than one woman." CANNON'S defense was that he had not broken the law, as he had lived with but one of his wives as a husband. The decision of the court was, in effect, that the defendant was to be found guilty if he lived in the same house with the two women and ate at their respective tables one-third of his time or thereabouts, and held them out to the world by his language or conduct, or both, as his wives; and that it was not necessary it should be shown that he and the two women, or either of them, occupied the same bed, or slept in the same room, or that he had sexual intercourse with them.

CANNON appealed to the Supreme court of the United States from this decision. The point was, whether the court which sentenced him did not err in the decision given above—CANNON, through his attorneys, claiming that the word "cohabit" of the Edmunds law referred only to the sexual act, and not to residence under the same roof, eating at the same table, etc. The Supreme court affirmed the decision of the territorial court, and Justice BLATCHFORD said, in announcing the decision:

It is the practice of unlawful cohabitation with more than one woman that is aimed at—a cohabitation classed with polygamy and having its outward semblance. The law seeks not only to punish bigamy and polygamy when direct proof of the existence of those relations can be made, but to prevent a man from flaunting in the face of the world the ostentation and opportunities of a bigamous household, with all the outward appearance of the continuance of the same relations which existed before the act was passed and without reference to what may occur in the privacy of those relations.

In the spirit of the interpretation a man cohabits with more than one woman in the sense of the act when—holding out to the world two women as his wives, by his language or conduct, or both—he lives in the house with them and eats at the table of each a portion of the time, although he does not occupy the same bed or sleep in the room with either of them, or actually have sexual intercourse with either of them. He holds two women out to the world as his wives by his conduct when he maintains the two wives and the children of each, all in the same house with himself, and regularly eats at the table of each, and acts as the head of the two families.

The opinion gives WEBSTER'S definition of the word "cohabit," and says that Sec. 3 of the act was intended to reach the exhibition of all the indicia of a marriage, a household, and a family, twice repeated. Justice MILLER, however, dissented, and held that the word "cohabit," as employed in the law, should be interpreted to refer only to the actual married relation with more than one woman.

ONLY 35 per cent. of the 50,000 Indian children in the United States are receiving any education.

BAYARD'S POCKET BOROUGH.

There is a most remarkable article in the December number of the *North American Review*, entitled "A Disfranchised People," by the editor, ALLEN THORNDIKE RICE, devoted to the exposure of the system by which the Republicans of Delaware are disfranchised, under a law for which Sec. BAYARD is responsible. Mr. RICE states that he collected his facts by a careful and circumstantial investigation of the system of representation and voting in Delaware, and he declares that under the existing system,

A very large part of the citizens of Delaware, belonging to one of its great parties, are as thoroughly disfranchised, by legal chicanery, as any community of negroes in Mississippi were ever disfranchised by physical intimidation.

The process may be summarized as follows: Under the constitution of 1831, all Delaware electors not having taxable property, were required to pay a poll tax ranging from 80 cents to $3. The registry was closed six months before the November election. When the negro was enfranchised, there was a concerted movement to defeat his vote, and in March, 1872, the collectors, all of whom were Democrats, returned to the levy courts large numbers of names of negroes as "dead" or "left the state." These returns were approved by the Democratic levy courts and a wholesale disfranchisement of men, entitled to vote, was effected. The federal courts interfered. The conspirators were defended by Mr. M. BAYARD and GRAY, his senatorial successor. One of them was convicted and fined, and the law being thus asserted, the other cases were dropped.

Baffled in this first attempt to disfranchise the negro, Mr. BAYARD,—who boasted afterward that the subsequent legislation on the subject was his own handiwork,—set his wits to work to circumvent the federal statute by a state law; and in 1873 the Democratic legislature perfected the precious scheme that now disgraces Delaware and destroys the rights of her citizens. Under this law of 1873, the tax-collector makes a return to the levy court of all delinquents in March, completing his assessment in the February preceding. In this return he may, at his option, drop or retain the non-taxpayer. If he is dropped, as is almost universally done with the Republican delinquent, he cannot be reinstated for twelve months thereafter.

It must be observed that this twelve months' disfranchisement runs from March to March. At its expiration, the victim of this rascally law must wait until the next February before he can get back on the assessment list, so that he loses his vote for two years for one year's failure to pay his tax. Should he be told that he can appeal to the levy court and be reinstated, he is usually too poor or too hard-worked to take that course, even in such places as might have a Democratic levy court that would not itself hinder him by the many expedients at its command. To make the thing surer, the poll-tax must be paid in mid-winter and nine months before the November election, when the poor voter is least likely and least able to pay it. Moreover, the tax-collector is only required to be in attendance for three days to receive taxes and can easily keep out of the way of Republican electors who are hunting for him.

Meantime the Democratic collector has kept the Democratic delinquents on his lists. They can pay their arrears at any time up to the November election and their votes are not lost. The scheme is a perfect piece of machinery for defeating the federal statutes and preserving Democratic supremacy in Deleware. Mr. RICE concludes, after a sifting of all the acts of the case, that

There seems to be no doubt that the old commonwealth of Delaware is substantially in possession of a thoroughly organized band of political conspirators, who have taken it out of the hands of the people and hold it under their own absolute dictation.

And he asks, after plainly indicating the present secretary of State as the chief architect of this present piece of party rascality:

How is the conclusion to be avoided by any capable, not to say impartial, mind, that through the instrumentality of this measure, partisan cunning, injustice and dishonesty have reached their lowest ebb in our public life, and that, in reality, the whited sepulchre is a prominent feature in our political architecture?

And this autocrat, BAYARD, who holds political power in Delaware by such villainy, is a man who has for years aspired to the Presidency. So far he has not dared make any answer to this arraignment. He cannot deny it, for the proof is plain; and his silence is admission that the charge is true.

WE thank our friends everywhere for the successful efforts they are making to extend the circulation of the BLADE. Almost all who renew (and everybody is renewing) sends another name with his own. We want a circulation of 200,000, and the indications are that we shall reach it.

THE Bourbons never tire of lying about Gen. LOGAN. Their latest report is that he is engaged in the preparation of a speech which is to be "the greatest effort of his life"; that ex-Postmaster PALMER, of Chicago, is preparing the points, if not writing, this great effort; that it is to be about executive business, but to be delivered in open session, so that all the world may hear it, and that it will "pulverize the President." The attention of Mr. LOGAN having been called to this report, he said:

There is not a word of truth in that story. I am not preparing a speech of any kind on any subject. Mr. Palmer I have seen but once, and then there was no talk about politics. Neither he nor any other man is writing a speech for me. When any one does write a speech for me I should be glad to be advised of it.

CLUB AGENTS.

It is now the season of the year to raise clubs for the BLADE, and we want an agent at every postoffice in the United States. *We pay this year the largest cash commission to club agents of any paper in the United States.* Write for our terms to agents. There is no paper published that so many people want and none for which it is so easy to raise clubs. Send for our terms to agents and make a dollar or two in an hour.

DESPITE the fact that Mr. CLEVELAND followed Mr. HAYES'S lead, and in his letter of acceptance stated that he believed in the one-term idea for the Presidency, there is an impression abroad in the Bourbon ranks that he is a candidate for a second nomination. The mere idea makes the spoilsmen foam at the mouth. They are willing to acknowledge that he is the most available candidate, and the only one possibly with whom they could win; but if they are going to be kept out of office, they would sooner it were done by a Republican President than by a man whom they regard as a recreant.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

Something of Interest to Every One.

"The Confessions of a Drunkard."

We shall commence in the first issue in January, 1886, a serial under the above title, which will continue probably for three months.

It will be the most useful and instructive series of articles ever published and the most helpful to the temperance cause.

It is the confessions of a man of fifty, who used liquor at first moderately and then immoderately for forty years, the author, (it is an autobiography) going into detail and narrating the progress of the appetite, from the beginning to end.

It is an absolute record of an actual life, a cold statement of fact, which has however, enough of interest in it to make it read like a novel.

Every friend of Temperance and every hater of Rum should assist in giving this remarkable production a wide circulation. Especially, we want it placed in the hands of every young man who is commencing to trifle with the poison, and also all who are addicted to its use. How to prevent will be shown to the one, and how to cure to the other.

☞ We will send special short-time terms to those who are willing to raise three months short-time clubs, to continue during this publication of this help to the cause.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

To-morrow is the high festival of the Christian year, and the BLADE most heartily wishes its readers a "Merry Christmas!" The feast-time of Christianity is a many-sided occasion. From a religious standpoint, it is a time of glad rejoicing in commemoration of the birth of the Redeemer of the world, the festival of the coming Messiah, who saves his people from their sins. From a social point of view, it is the great holiday-time of the year, a season of mirth and jollity, of home pleasures and innocent sports, bringing to all, gentle or simple, churchman or heretic, young or old, a time of joy, a season of relaxation, and for which all men are, or should be, better and happier, at least for the time.

But to the children Christmas is the very happiest time of all the rolling year. It is a season of gift-giving, of much indulgence in good eating and drinking, with generous supplies of toothsome dainties and sweetmeats such as their souls love. To the wee ones it is the day to rejoice over the wonderful night visit of Santa Claus, flying through the air on his sleigh drawn by reindeer, the vehicle heaped high with toys and gifts. And it is meet that it should be a day for children's rejoicing, for the wondrous event it commemorates is the birth of the Christ-child. "He shall be a Savior," says the inspired writer, looking with prophetic vision and reverent joy down the dim corridors of time to note the event to which the Christian world now looks back with rejoicing, and in their faith in that prophetic utterance depend on that Savior for redemption from sin. Christmas is indeed the children's festival, to be kept in that sweet, child like spirit which is the essence of Christianity. And as it commemorates the gift of a Redeemer to a perishing world, let us mark its return by giftgiving. The poor we have always with us. Let each make some heart glad by a kind act—by a gift from out of his own abundance to one who has not. Like mercy, charity is twice blest; it blesses him that gives as well as him that takes. Take time to visit those who would otherwise sit, forlorn and forgotten, hungry and cold; bring joy, and gratitude, and happiness to them; and the blessing pronounced on the generous giver will certainly fall upon you.

The true spirit of Christmas is the one which is the very central thought of Christianity. It is the spirit of the angels' song, "Peace on earth, good will toward men," chanted on the plains of Bethlehem before the wondering shepherds. CHRIST is within us only as we live up to that spirit. In proportion as we help to soothe, and soften, and render kinder the hearts that have been hardened by contact with the world, we are doing, in our humble way, the work that CHRIST came to perform. No matter how many churches and cathedrals have sprung up in his honor in the rolling centuries since his earthly life, no matter how mighty the growth of Christian institutions, no matter how great the spread of what the world calls Christian civilization through all lands, Christ is in the world only so much as the real spirit of peace and good will among men actuates humanity. There is no cause, there is no human institution, that is worthy to be called by His name that fails to embody this spirit. Only he who has that spirit in his heart and manifests it in his daily life and converse with all men, is doing his share to hasten the coming of the glorious millennial day when peace shall cover all the earth, and the nations shall learn war no longer—when, in all the unimaginable pomp and glory of his second coming, CHRIST shall rule, a King forever.

TO THOSE NOT TAKING THE BLADE.

Persons receiving this issue of the BLADE, who are not subscribers, will understand that it is sent them by request of some friend who furnished their names, and that the object is to have them examine it, with a view of securing their subscription. We ask all such to give the BLADE a critical examination, nd see if anywhere they can get so much for a dollar. If the paper pleases, subscribe for it.

NOTE the fact that the steel rail manufacture is booming, and that the market for pig iron is flat. Why is the one market brisk and not the other? The answer is given by J. TILLINGHAST, assistant to be President of the New York Central railroad, as follows:

Steel rail business is good now because there is a protection of $17 a ton on it. Pig-iron is flat, because there is only $6 a ton to protect it. Pig-iron costs $2 on the average to each man at the furnace in this country, while across the water only $1. Now, we wouldn't ask a man to work for us at that rate here. It is the laboring man who buys his lot and builds his house on it who makes this country rich and substantial. What we need is protection for those things that require it. Let others in free. Then we shall thrive.

IT may not be generally known that steel nails are driving iron nails out of the market. Half the product of the Wheeling nail mills is of steel nails, and the work of altering the plant in such mills all over the country is going on rapidly. Steel nails, besides being far better than iron ones, are manufactured by a process which puts them on the market at a lower price than the iron ones can be sold for.

MR. NASBY

Has been released from the Bastile at the Corners, a full account of which will appear in the BLADE next week.

IN A BOX.

While the free trade Democrats in Congress are anxious to reduce Mr. RANDALL'S power, and this is agreed in by free traders of the party in the East, yet some of the more thoughtful of them are doubtful of the policy of accomplishing it by destroying the functions of the Appropriation committee, and distributing them among the other committees.

It is comical to see their perplexity. They dare not bring pressure to bear upon Mr. CARLISLE to have him refuse to appoint RANDALL to his old post. And they feel certain that to distribute the appropriations among the various committees will result in largely increasing expenditures. This has already been proved. The River and Harbor and the Agricultural department committees had the expenditures for these two services relegated to them from the Appropriation committee, and, as the New York *Sun* says, the experience "shows that they have more than doubled the appropriations for them as compared with the grants made by the regular committee."

If the supervision of the Appropriation committee, whose special duty it is to supervise all estimates, and keep a strict watch over the government expenditures, as made made in the bills for all purposes, be taken away, we shall see every committee largely increase the appropriations for its own special objects, and they will commit the country to an enormous and wasteful outlay; while the chances for dishonest schemes and lobby projects will be increased a thousand fold.

The Democratic leaders recognize that this will bring on them the swift and sure coudemnation of the country ot the Congressional elections next fall. And the real weakness of the free trade wing of the party is clearly shown in the admitted fact that Speaker CARLISLE will not dare brave the public opinion of the country and even of the Democratic party at large by refusing to appoint RANDALL to his old position.

SEND us the names of your friends everywhere, that we may send specimens to them. We don't care what state or territory they are in—the BLADE circulates in all of them. Send us the names. A postal card will answer.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

Dr. Brigham, who is high authority on questions relating to vital statistics and social science, recently published a remarkable essay on "The Economy of Vice and Crime." In the course of this paper he advances the opinion that intemperance is a benefit to society, as it leads to the elimination of the mentally and physically weak class of the population by providing them a speedy and certain mode of death. Dr. Brigham evidently regards poor whisky and the foolkiller as identical characters.—*Chicago Journal.*

A paragraph similar to the above has appeared recently in two or the papers, which gives a false idea in regard to the originator of the remarkable theory advanced by Dr. BRIGHAM. A very brilliant paper upon "The Economic Function of Vice," by Mr. JOHN MCELROY, the then able managing editor of the BLADE, now of the *National Tribune*, Washington, was published in the April number of the *Popular Science Monthly* for 1883, and attracted wide attention and criticism. Mr. MCELROY took the ground, and sustained it in a masterly manner, that vice of all kinds obtains for its victims only the weakest of humanity, and that the world is the better for their taking off. He says that "vice is not so much a cause as an effect—not so much a disease as a symptom. Vice does not make a nature weak or defective; a weak and defective nature expresses its weakness and defects in vice, and that expression brings about in one way or another, the sovereign remedy of extermination."

Mr. MCELROY believes that vice of all kinds has the same effect, proportioned to its strength. He shows how history bears out his assertion, how brief a time noble names remain in view, how families rise to dazzling eminence upon one page, and the next go into oblivion. "Idleness, luxury, and more or less flagrant debauchery have done their appointed work in removing the deteriorated forms of human life from the world, that their room might be had for more acceptable growths."

The author says that it is not to give an opinion of this law of nature that he argues, but simply to prove that it is a law, and one that is as beneficent in its operations, cruel as it may seem, as that one which orders that below man, the higher animals shall all prey upon those lower in the scale in order to prevent an overcrowding of the different species. In the same way since the propagation of human beings goes on with entire recklessness as to the quality of the product and the means of subsistence, some strong corrective is absolutely necessary to establish limits to population, and to secure the continued development of the race. A very simple calculation proves that if every begotten child lived to the average age of 40 there would not in a few years be standing room upon the earth for its people.

Whatever may be thought of this theory, it was most ably supported in the article. Of course, even accepting it as true, it does not do away with the absolute necessity of fighting vice in all its forms, and especially of endeavoring to put down the demon of intemperance, so that the sum total of misery may be diminished. We can easily believe that Nature will then take the higher course of limiting propagation in order to do away with a surplusage of population.

THE intense feeling in favor of Prohibition that was stirred up in Atlanta by the recent campaign and election has spread all over Georgia, and the battle against the Rum Power is raging all over the state, in every locality in which Prohibition has not already been adopted. It is declared that within six months every "wet" county in the state will probably hold an election on the liquor question. The success of the movement in Atlanta has inspired the friends of Prohibition in the other cities of the state, and Macon, Savannah and Columbus will all vote on the Prohibition question within a few weeks. It is said that not even in war times was there more excitement throughout Georgia than now prevails.

ROBERT SMALLS, Representative from South Carolina, is the only colored man in the Congress of the United States. He is short and fat and black, with big spectacles, and looks like the typical negro exhorter. He has the reputation of being very bright and shrewd.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Sec. Lamar has requested the attorney general to bring suits against cattlemen in forty additional cases, for fencing public lands in Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado.——The Supreme court of the United States has sustained the Northwestern road in refusing to transport beer into Iowa, in violation of the prohibitory liquor law of that state.——Philip Lyons, of Atlantic City, N. J., was 100 years old Friday. He shaves himself twice a week without a mirror. His intellect is bright, but he is feeble in body and rarely leaves the house, though he voted at the polls at the last election and voted the Republican ticket.——It is reported that in addition to reimposing duties on tea and coffee, with a view of meeting the deficit in the revenue, the new Canadian minister of Finance will increase the coal tax from 50 cents to one dollar per ton.——An Irishman who was years ago befriended in Maine by the father of Richard Golden, the comedian, left $50,000 to the latter.——Robert Toombs left property of the estimated value of $400,000. He recently charged John P. Hale with originating the story that he had threatened to pull the roll of his slaves at the foot of Bunker Hill monument.——Congress has passed a bill removing the political disabilities of Alexander R. Lawton, of Georgia. He is now eligible for a share of the spoils.——Many negroes are leaving South Carolina because of poor crops and high rents.——The President has nominated Gen. Franz Sigel to be Pension agent at New York city.——Lulu Hicks, a female hermit of Olean, N. Y., died suddenly some time ago. Last week, the old cabin in which she lived was torn down and $45,000 in bonds and currency is said to have been found under the pallet on which she slept.——The presidential election in France will be held December 28. A refusal by the chamber of deputies to vote 75,000,000 francs for the war in Tonquin will be construed by the ministry as a lack of confidence.——The sword intended by Pres. Cleveland for Gen. Tchernaieff, who died without issue, has been presented to the Emperor of Russia.——A contract for the construction of the Black Diamond railway, between Zanesville and Malta, O., was signed Tuesday, and work will begin immediately.——Jay Gould has leased his Grand opera-house in New York for $40,000 per annum for five years, reserving a box to his own use.——M. Adolf Deutcher has been elected president of the Swiss republic for 1886.——The Mexican Central Railway company, in a circular announcing its inability to meet the interest on its first-mortgage bonds, holds out the hope that the government will next month resume the payment of subsidies. The company has on hand $5,003,000 in unpledged subsidy certificates.——A fire at Jacksonville, Fla., destroyed a number of business houses. Loss $450,000; insurance $300,000.——Senator Beck, of Kentucky, has introduced a bill to provide for a public building at Newport, to cost not over $100,000.——New York customs officers seized arms and ammunition destined for Cuba, found on board the steamship City of Mexico.——Seventeen persons are reported as suffering from trichinosis by the health officer of New York, contracted by a family named Weitzel.——The fisheries of the world furnish a greater supply of food to the people yearly than would be credited at a casual glance. Last year in Great Britain 550,000 tons of fish were taken, which in weight is equivalent to 15,500,000 sheep, allowing 28 sheep to the ton. In Canada last year 273,059 tons were caught, or about an equivalent in weight to 7,644,000 sheep. The value of the Canadian fish for

Correspondence.

TO CONTRIBUTORS.

The BLADE does not pay for volunteer contributions of any kind. If poems, stories, sketches, etc., are sent to us, we will return them, if available, if not, they will be returned only if stamps are enclosed for that purpose. We will not hereafter preserve any MSS., and we will not be responsible for any sent us.

KIND WORDS.

What They Think of the Blade in Six States of the West.

The following letters received in one day from *bona fide* subscribers in different parts of the West, proves the BLADE is what it is represented to be, that it is read and admired by thousands of people, and that the BLADE's plan of "Pulverizing the Rum Power," is the only safe and successful plan proposed which will meet with the hearty co-operation of every true temperance man in the United States:

James Fearing, Junction City, Kas.:

With pleasure I renew my subscription to the BLADE, because it is the best family paper that I ever saw. I like its style and the way it handles the liquor question. I take three weekly papers but I always go for the BLADE first. The whisky business is next to Junction City's best. The drug stores are doing a big trade in rum. God grant that the time may soon come when this accursed traffic shall be done away. May you have strength and grace from on high to continue in the work to "Pulverize the Rum Power."

A. Watts, Summit, Mo.:

The BLADE is popular alike here with "Confederates" and Republicans of prohibition principles. Many express a wish that they were able to subscribe for it, but times are very hard. We all like your position on the liquor question. Success to the BLADE.

James E. Jones, Danville, Ill.:

I have been a reader of the BLADE almost a year, and I heartily endorse your views on prohibition. I am what they call a red-hot Republican. I believe in the principles and the men of that party. I am in favor of prohibition, but first let us secure a free ballot, let us punish the fraud in the North and intimidation in the South. These, my friends, are the great enemies of prohibition, protection and progress.

Spencer Ellis, Wellington, Nevada:

I have been a reader of your valuable paper for some time, and I heartily endorse the noble stand it has taken in favor of temperance. I am glad to see the names added to the list of the temperance legion from week to week. It is the most noble work a politician can engage in, and it is a sign that the time is not far distant when prohibition will rule.

J. N. Sheldan, Leon, Iowa:

I have been taking the good old BLADE for four years. I like it in the family and expect to continue taking it as long as it advocates temperance and Republicanism, which I hope will finally rule our land. Fight on good old BLADE for temperance. It is a good cause and may your circulation swell to thousands yearly.

Wilson Bradrick, Fredericktown, Ohio:

Being a friend to the BLADE, I write you words of cheer, and congratulate you on the success you have attained. We welcome the BLADE every week as a friend. We love to read the articles on temperance and are glad that the cause of prohibition is advancing without the aid of a third party. Some of us in Knox county hope to see the day that we may go to the polls, Republican and Democrat, and vote the rum power out of existence. We boast of free country, but till the gibbet hails where plans are laid to dissolve the Union and to rob the virtue of its purity are torn down or transformed into places of honorable business, our boast is vain.

WORDS THAT BURN.

A Virginia Republican Discusses the Late Election There.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

The result of the election in this state brings up further evidence of a crisis approaching in the history of this nation, that will, I fear, have to be passed, until a change equal to the one we have passed, who is all hopeful patriots trusted had for all time settled the experiment of republican institutions. The Republicans of Virginia have in recent years borne a pressure unknown to those of any other state, but the campaign through which we have just passed was one so exasperating that I dare say it has never been in parallel in the history of our country. The so-called Democratic party entered upon the work with deadly determination to ride over the will of the majority, regardless of all consequences.

The ignorance and prejudice of the masses that constitute their rank and file, has been their chief reliance; hence, the universal refusal to discuss in many, joint discussions, the vital issues challenged by the Republicans. The damning curse of the shadow of the Confederacy, still lingers as a mantle upon the shoulders of the Southern Democracy, and the same tyranny and intolerance that characterized the rule of the slaveholders' confederacy, permeates every fibre and sinew of the Virginia Democracy.

Virginia has a traditional aristocracy that became the ready tools in 1861 to drive her common people into a committal on the side of a rebellion against the Union,—that Virginia, next to Massachusetts, furnished the most soldiers of the revolution. This same class, like the ghost of the dead confederacy, is now sitting upon the destiny of Virginia, and upon the ruins of all the guarantees of republican government. They bid defiance to every State in this Union. Their attorney general elect, I am told, in this county the other night, stated that, "Virginia had thrown herself in the breach, and made the South solid." This is the intent of Southern Democracy. The South must be solid, until the second great crisis is reached and passed, and every day delayed, renders more difficult the task of maintaining the results of the war. The Republican party committed a grave blunder in ever allowing the once dethroned oligarchy to ever again participate in the administration of the government they so malignantly endeavored to destroy.

I give your readers an extract from the resolutions passed by the General Assembly of Virginia on March 9, 1864, framed for the purpose of inflaming the Southern soldiers against the Union. I never have in the history of any people, found such an appeal to excite the deadliest passions in armed men. The results have proven, in every instance, as false as the living venom of those resolutions; while the treatment of Southern Union men since the war, in many instances, has been meted out as if in the hour of our triumph we had pursued the course predicted in those base resolutions. I only give a few paragraphs as follows: "Nothing but wretchedness and untold misery awaits us if we stop short of the unconditional acknowledgment of our independence. This your valor will surely command. Men of Virginia! You are soldier of a renowned commonwealth, whose every page have illustrated and borne aloft on every battle field. We need not unfold to you the muniments of your right to self-government. We are assured that you fully comprehend the necessity of a successful assertion of that right, and that you will never lay down your arms until you have secured it. Born to an inheritance of freedom, you cannot hesitate to choose between slavery or death. Submission to an enemy, who has exhausted every infamy, is not endurable even in thought; but were we base enough to desire peace upon any terms less than the unqualified recognition of our independence, self-interest alone would constrain us to refuse it. Reflect on the forbearance of a nation who have shown in every step of the war, that their faith is perfidy, and their policy is rapine, plunder and oppression.

"The whole history of our former association with the Northern states admonishes us that in a common government they will never fail to employ their power to take away our property. Their present malice springs chiefly from baffled cupidity. But for this greater passion of their natures, an honorable and speedy peace would be easy. The war has fully developed all their purposes, and you know the fate that awaits you in the event of subjugation. Your liberties will utterly perish. Your state organization will be blotted out. All your property, of every description, will be confiscated, for all of us have participated in the revolution. Your lands will be divided out among the banditti from the North, and from Europe, who have invaded our states. A free negro population will be established in your midst, who will be your social equals and military governors. Negro guards will, at their pleasure, give you passes and safe conducts, or arrest you, to be tried and punished by negro commandants and magistrates; and to these yourselves, your wives and children will be menial slaves, except those of you whom the malice of your enemies shall reserve for the dungeon or gallows."

All this infernal stuff, is not one-fourth of those resolutions passed that day, to the poor deluded rank and file they were read, while the compromises and humane proclamations of President Lincoln were never allowed to enter the lines.

To-day the same false statements are made, and in the frenzy and excitement they fire up their still poor deluded followers who stop their ears and nurse vengeance against the humane, but misdirected Republican party. As a native Southern Union man, an ex-Union soldier of the Grand Army of the Republic, I say in full view of possible responsibilities, that under the present Federal administration, the state of Virginia is as fully under the dominant sentiment of the Confederacy, as if they had subdued the Union. D. S. HALE.

Hale's Mill, Va.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Some Account of One Section of Our Extreme Northwest Corner.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

Having read in the BLADE a call for a descriptive letter from the northern part of Washington Territory, I thought perhaps a brief description of this part might interest your readers. Whitman county is situated in the eastern part of the territory, with Colfax as its county seat. The population of the county is about 10,000; it is 56 miles in length, by 44 miles in breadth, and is strictly an agricultural and stock raising country, its principal product being wheat, which it raises in abundance, last year the yield being 35 bushels to the acre. Our greatest drawback, so far, has been to find a market for our produce. There is a branch railroad, controlled by the O. R. & N. Co., which connects with the Northern Pacific railroad at a point 87 miles west of Colfax, which monopolizes the carrying trade of our county. The farmers have to pay about as much freight on a car-load of wheat from Colfax to Palouse Junction, a distance of 87 miles from Colfax, as they do from Palouse Junction to St. Paul, a distance of 1,700 miles. The Northern Pacific railroad officials have surveyors in the field to locate a branch of their road to terminate at some point on the Palouse river, which will tap the entire Palouse country, and make competition, and its natural results, a better market.

Whitman county, and in fact almost all of Washington territory, is a rough, hilly country. There is hardly a broad, flat farm of 400 acres in the entire county; but to offset all of these disadvantages, it possesses as deep and fine a soil as can be found anywhere, which can be broken in the fall and planted in spring wheat, and there is a good crop without fail. There is plenty of government land to be had under the homestead and pre-emption land laws, which is good land, but not level by any means. There is also railroad land, which can be bought from $5 an acre upwards. The citizens of Whitman county are mostly American born, and are a highly moral and respectable class of people. If any persons reading this intends to emigrate to Washington Territory, they will find Whitman county as favorable as any in the territory for farming or any of its attending pursuits; but it will also require hard work and determination to make a success here as elsewhere.

Whitman Co., W. T. J. P.

A Respectful Protest from Colorado

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

In a recent issue of your paper a correspondent states "Colorado is not, never was and never will be, an agricultural state." "A Victim of Almanacs" may be correct, but it is a fact that in the late Ute reservation, comprising the valleys of the Uncompahgre, Gunnison and Grand rivers and tributary streams, are located some of the finest fruit and farming lands in the West.

We have both peaches and apples this season, from trees brought from the Mississippi valley and planted three years ago. While it is true the greater portion of Colorado lies at an altitude too high for successful farming, and large areas are not susceptible of irrigation, yet tens of thousands of acres of land, easily watered, and that will produce large crops of the cereals and fruits, in the counties of Delta, Mesa and Montrose, await the enterprising settler. The writer has farmed three seasons in the valley of the Grand, and knows that with irrigation crops can be produced as cheap as any where in the states East.

E. W. STEELE.

The Next Question.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

The question to be settled now is the political status of the negro in our government. The North reconstructed the rebel states and has not stood by their work. Reconstruction overthrown by ignores the colored vote and gives you a solid South. The white population of the North and South must decide what to do with the "nigger." The colored people are looking on. When the North understood that slave labor affected the white people they put a stop to it, and now ignoring "Mr. Nigger" politically, the North is effectual again and may act. G. A. R.

Little Rock, Ark.

The Pikes Peak Railroad.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

I see by the BLADE that the Pike's Peak railroad is nearly completed. Now, it seems too bad to spoil a nice story, but the truth is that there is almost nothing done towards it. A small part of the grading is partly done. Nothing more. Less than one and one half per cent. of the estimated cost of the road has been expended; and the chances are about equal for a railroad to the summit of Pike's Peak, and a ship canal to purgatory. I speak from knowledge and personal observation. A. B. WHITNEY.

Milford, Kan.

—Don't hawk, and blow, and spit, but use Dr. Sage's Catarrh remedy.

An English Ghost Story.

Lady Hoby is again said to be haunting Bisham Abbey, and is causing no little sensation. She was the wife of the English Ambassador to the Court of France in 1566. The Abbey is the most historic religious house in Berkshire, and in one of the apartments is a peculiar painting representing the lady with a very white face and hands, dressed in the coif, weeds and wimple then allowed to a baronet's lady. In this identical dress, it is most strongly averred, she has been frequently seen in one of the bedrooms of the Abbey, with a self supporting basin moving before her, in which she is perpetually trying to wash her hands, but the most remarkable part of the story is that the so-called apparition always appears in the negative, viz., the black part white and the white part black. The story, as now told by the domestics and adjacent villagers, is that she beat her son William to death because he could not write without making blots, and a singular part of the tale is that a short time ago, in altering the shutters of the dining-room, a great number of children's copy-books of the time of Queen Elizabeth were discovered pushed between the joists of the floor, some of which answered exactly to the tale as if the child could not write a single line without making a blot. Neither the domestics at the Abbey nor the adjacent villagers will hear one word against the narrative.

When a man becomes a slave to opium he cannot give up the habit. It may have been acquired by giving him opiates when sick, and this is why Red Star Cough Cure commends itself for its purity, freedom from narcotics, and prompt efficacy. Only 25 cents.

"The Public Be ——."

Sam Burton, the Commodore's Favorite Nephew.

I see that Chauncey Depew has referred to the notorious "the public be damned" expression. I know all about that incident, and I must say that I never experienced another case where an innocent remark was tortured out of its real meaning. The remark occurred, you will remember, on a train bound to Leadville. I was one of the party and heard the whole of the interview. We were met at Michigan City by two Chicago reporters who had come out on a special train to meet Mr. Vanderbilt. He received them cordially, and as he was in fine spirits the conversation was a merry one. Finally one of the reporters said quizzically, apropos to the subject under discussion:

"Are you working for the public or for your stockholders, Mr. Vanderbilt?"

"O," said the latter, laughing, "the public be d——d."

He meant nothing by this remark, and any fair-minded man who heard the talk and knew its spirit would have recognized this fact. Imagine our surprise to find it tortured as it was into a serious and brutal thing. Mr. Vanderbilt was overwhelmed.

FIVE DOLLARS' WORTH FOR $3.

TO EVERY NEW SUBSCRIBER SENDING $3 FOR THE

NEW YORK FIRESIDE COMPANION FOR 1886,

WE WILL SEND FREE A COMPLETE SET OF MACAULAY'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND SEASIDE LIBRARY EDITION, (Price $2.)

THE FIRESIDE COMPANION is the most interesting weekly paper published in the United States, embracing in its contents the best Stories, the best Sketches, the best Humorous Matter, the best Reading for Little Folks, Random Tales, Fashion Articles, Personals, Anecdotes, and Answers to Correspondents, etc., etc. No expense is spared to get the best matter.

A FRESH SERMON BY REV. T. DEWITT TALMAGE IS PUBLISHED IN EVERY NUMBER.

Among the contributors to THE FIRESIDE COMPANION are Mrs. Mary E. Bryan, Lucy Randall Comfort, Mrs. Alex. McVeigh Miller, Laura Jean Libbey, etc.

Cut this Advertisement out and send with order.

Address GEORGE MUNRO,
MUNRO'S PUBLISHING HOUSE,
P. O. Box 3495. 17 to 27 Vandewater St., N. Y.

One of the reputed seven sages said: "Whether women be handsome or not does not signify. If they are ugly, they turn one's stomach; if they are lovely, they turn one's head."

FITS: All fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No fits after first day's use. Marvelous cures. Treatise and $2.00 trial bottle free to Fit cases. Send to Dr. Kline, 931 Arch St. Phila. Pa.

Publishers' Column.

OUR SEWING MACHINE ENTERPRISE!

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS FOR CIRCULARS!

At last, after delays as innumerable as vexatious, we are ready to make a positive announcement.

We have the best machine, as we verily believe, now on the market; we warrant it to be as handsome a machine as any, and greatly superior in point of style and finish to the most, and we warrant them without reserve to do everything claimed for them, which we shall sell direct to to the people, without the intervention of middle men, on the following terms:

THE BLADE SEWING MACHINE
AND THE
Weekly Blade One Year,
FOR $18.

This is half that any good machine sold the old way can be bought for.

We put the machine securely crated, on board cars, the freight to be paid by the party ordering it.

These ordering the machine who are already taking the BLADE will be credited with one year in advance of the time for which they have paid.

☞ The BLADE machine is not sold by agents, and can be procured only of us and on these terms.

Remit by Postoffice order, or drafts upon New York, Chicago or Toledo.

CAUTION.

We especially desire our readers not to confound this machine with the cheap machines so extensively advertised. All these other machines are either old ones rebuilt, or machines built from expired patents and without the modern improvements. The Blade Machine is entirely new, with a dozen improvements, built of the best possible material and in the best possible manner, by skilled workmen and with machinery of our own construction. We warrant it to be the best machine for family use on the market.

The Blade Company Guarantees This.

We shall commence shipping machines early in January, and ship daily thereafter. Machines will be shipped in the order in which orders are received.

Be particular as to giving addresses, and please designate whether you want them sent by freight or express.

ORDER AT ONCE.

Address BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

P. S.—Every machine will be thoroughly tried and tested before leaving the factory

TO THOSE WHO DO NOT TAKE THE BLADE.

Persons not subscribers to the BLADE and who may receive this number, are requested to examine it carefully. Of course if it pleases them we want their subscriptions. Look over the various departments and see whether anywhere you can get so much for the money.

Our terms are $1 a year, 30 cents for three months.

And please read the Publisher's Department on the fifth page, as well as advertisements elsewhere, and note the combination offers we make. Everything we advertise we guarantee, and you take no risk in availing yourself of anything we offer. Try the BLADE. Subscribe at once, and you will not be disappointed. It is beyond question the best family paper in the world, which statement 120,000 families will attest.

THE THREE GREAT GENERALS—GRANT, SHERMAN AND SHERIDAN.

We have published portraits of the three great Generals of the war, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, which are the best portraits of the heroes that have ever been put upon paper. John S. Kountz, late commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, says that our portrait of Grant is the best ever published, Sen. Sherman says that our portrait of his brother, the General, is the best and most life-like he has ever seen, and we know that the portrait of Sheridan was never excelled. We have printed these superb portraits on the finest plate paper, size 19 by 24, and will mail them to any address, post-paid, as follows:

Single	25 cents
The three, to one address	50 cents
In combination with the BLADE—	
The Blade one year with either	$1 15
The Blade one year with all three	1 40
The Blade three months with either	40 cents
The Blade three months with all three	65 cents

We guarantee these portraits to be the best for the price ever printed, and they should be on the walls of every loyal family in the United States. No such portraits are sold by other publishers for less than from 50 cents to $1. We could not do it, except for the large sale we are certain to have.

☞ Agents and others can make money selling these portraits. Write to us for special terms.

THE BLADE'S TEMPERANCE CARTOONS

To Temperance Workers, Societies and Organizations.

The BLADE, months ago, conceived the idea of instructing the people in the Temperance cause by means of appeals to the eye. To the end of arousing public sentiment we have issued two cartoons, for posting, the first of which has been scattered all over the United States. Of this one we cent out, gratis, nearly 100,000, which is our contribution to the great cause.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 1.

"Do You See Any Good Coming Out of It?"

This is a very forcible picture. In the center is a bottle labelled "Whiskey," though a label is unnecessary. From the mouth of the bottle issues a vapor which separates in four sections, crowning each being pictures representing Murder, Beggary, Gambling and Delirium. On one side of the bottle is a drunken fiend and on the other a bar-room loafer, with appropriate sketche filling in the corners.

It is a powerful presentation of the evils and certain results of Intemperance.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 2.

"Which Way Would You Have Your Boy Go?"

A series of pictures, commencing with the face of a beautiful three-year-old, who starts in life on an equality with all other three-year-olds. On the upward line comes first the clean-faced boy of 10 on his way to school; next, the young, ambitious student of 15; then the young soldier of 21; then the middle-aged, strong man of 30; and, lastly, the hale and hearty old man of 70.

The contrast is another line of pictures, viz: The street boy already under the influence of rum, with the stub of a cigar in his mouth, at 10, the hoodlum at 18, the barroom loafing ruffian at 21, the tramp and criminal of 50, and the broken-down vagabond of 70.

There can be no more forcible presentation of the subject in pictorial form, and no cartoon can be devised that will better tell the whole story and do it at a glance.

BLADE CARTOON NO. 3.

"Which Way Would You Have Your Girl Go?"

Our next Cartoon, which is now rapidly being mailed, is entitled, "Which way would you have your Girl Go?" It contrasts the life of a girl who marries a sober man with one who weds a drunkard, and is quite as effective as those that have preceded it.

One of the reputed seven sages said: "Whether women be handsome or not does not signify. If they are ugly, they turn one's stomach; if they are lovely, they turn one's head."

FITS: All fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No Fits after first day's use. Marvelous cures. Treatise and $2.00 trial bottle free to Fit cases. Send to Dr. Kline, 931 Arch St. Phila. Pa.

Start the New Year

By Sending $1.75 for a Subscription

TO THE

Youth's Companion

Two Millions of Readers Every Week.

The Companion aims to be a favorite in every family—looked for eagerly by the young folks, and read with interest by the older. Its purpose is to interest while it amuses; to be judicious, practical, sensible, and to have really permanent worth, while it attracts for the hour. Subscription price, $1.75. Specimen copies free. *Mention this Paper.* Address

PERRY MASON & CO., Publishers,
41 Temple Place, Boston, Mass.

A FELT TIDY FREE.

To anyone sending 25 cents for a trial subscription of six months to FARM AND HOME, we will send free and postpaid a beautiful Felt Tidy with design of two owls shown herewith. It is stamped on best quality felt and makes one of the prettiest ornaments a lady can have in her home and nothing is more suitable for a holiday gift. Material and full instructions for working sent with each one. The instructions are so plain and simple that any lady can work them. Nearly 100,000 families read FARM AND HOME each month, which shows how it is appreciated by those who know its value. The Household Department with its House, hold Hints, Illustrated Fancy Work, Knitting Patterns, Practical Recipes and charity correspondence will help and please every woman in the land. New Illustrated Knitting and Fancy Work Patterns, a special feature in every issue.

Tidy and paper sent to separate addresses if desired. For $1 we send five tidies and five copies of FARM AND HOME six months Money refunded if you do not find everything exactly as advertised. Postage stamps taken; one cent denomination preferred. Address, *mentioning this paper,* THE PHELPS PUBLISHING CO., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

BLADE CARTOON NO. 4.

"In Which Village Would You Bring Up Your Children?"

This is the title of our Temperance cartoon, No. 4. It is an exceedingly spirited illustration of two villages, one under Prohibition rule and the other under the control of the Rum mills. It is quite as effective as its three predecessors, and will do as much toward arousing the public sentiment upon this great question. Those who have ordered the three preceding ones should send this immediately.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 5.

We have just issued another Temperance cartoon, the fifth in the series. It bears the inscription, "This farmer never drank whisky—this one drinks all he can get." It is quite as effective as its predecessors. On the one side is a farm house looking as do all farm houses where whisky never got a hold, clean, neat and prosperous. On the other side of the sheet is a farm house whose proprietor does drink, slovenly, shiftless looking, and wretched as possible. The contrast is sharply drawn and the picture is a most effective one.

We have made a price on them, which barely covers the cost of paper and postage:

Three copies of either	6 cents.
Six copies	10 cents.
Twenty-five copies	30 cents.
One Hundred copies	One dollar.

This gives no profit, the price covering only cost of printing, paper and postage. We contribute wrapping-paper and labor.

We want them pasted up so that they will stay, in every shop, store, factory, and on fences where they will be seen, in every section of the United States. There must be a temperance sentiment developed, everywhere. The people need awakening. Order them—the cost is barely nothing.

Send in your orders at once, and when received post them where they will be seen. We shall follow these with others.

36 Concealed Name Cards and Package of Presents, 13c. W. Clinton, North Haven, Conn.

IT HAWKS 'EM. Pack Cards, $1. Securely by mail. W. E. FRENCH, Toledo, O.

Choice Patent Buckwheat Flour for sale. ACME FLOURING MILLS, Corry, Pa.

40 Good Pictures, 8 Charming Stories for 6c. GEO. OTIS, Yarmouthport, Mass.

Greenback $10 invested returns $100 in 10 to 20 days. Send for proof of this address, with 2c stamp. J. J. Smith, Box 1767, Rock Hill, S. C.

$10 PER DAY and expenses easily made. Outfit free. Electric Shivervane and Tea Co., Ashtabula, O.

STOCK, FRUIT OR GRAIN FARM to rent cheap for cash, in center of Great Fruit Region of Southern Illinois. C. J. WILLIAMS, Alto Pass, Ills.

FROM THE

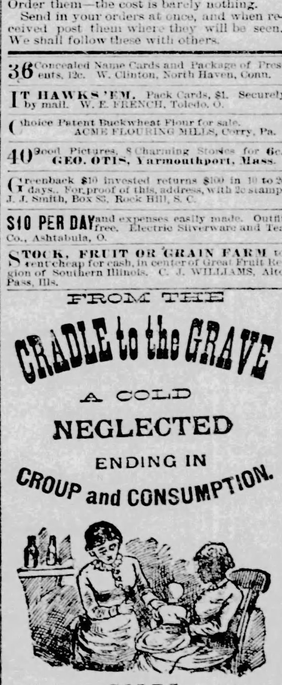
CRADLE to the GRAVE

A COLD

NEGLECTED

ENDING IN

CROUP and CONSUMPTION.



COLDS.

CROUP.

COUGHS.

CONSUMPTION.

NOW, TAKE IN TIME

TAYLOR'S

CHEROKEE REMEDY

OF SWEET GUM and MULLEIN.

The sweet gum, exuding from a tree of the same name growing in the small streams of the Southern States, contains a stimulating expectorant principle that loosens the phlegm producing the early morning cough, and effectually destroys the child to throw off the false membrane in croup and whooping-cough. When combined with the healing mucilaginous principle in the mullein plant of the old fields, presents in TAYLOR'S CHEROKEE REMEDY OF SWEET GUM AND MULLEIN, the finest known remedy for Coughs, Croup, Whooping Cough and Consumption; and so palatable, any child is pleased to take it. Ask your druggist for it. 25c. and $1.00 sizes. If he does not keep it, we will pay, for one time only, express charges on large size bottles to any part of the U. S., on receipt of $1.00.

WALTER A. TAYLOR, Atlanta.

EVERY BOY

wants a watch, and every boy can have one. $3.50 gives your boy a good watch and you get the BLADE one year thrown in. Remit $3.50 to the BLADE, Toledo, Ohio, and get the Waterbury watch for the boy and the BLADE one year for yourself.

☞ CAPITAL PRIZE $75,000.00
Tickets only $5. Shares in proportion

L. S. L.

LOUISIANA STATE LOTTERY CO.

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Quarterly Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with fac-similes of our signatures attached in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
J. A. Early

Commissioners.

We, the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in the Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

J. H. OGLESBY, Pres. Louisiana Nat'l Bank.
SAMUEL H. KENNEDY, Pres. State Nat'l Bk.
A. BALDWIN, Pres. New Orleans Nat'l Bank.

Incorporated in 1868 for 25 years by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes, with a capital of $1,000,000, to which a reserve fund of over $550,000 has since been added.

By an overwhelming popular vote its franchise was made a part of the present State Constitution adopted December 2d, A. D., 1879.

The only Lottery ever voted on and endorsed by the people of any State.

It never scales or postpones

Its Grand Single Number Drawings take place monthly, and the Extraordinary Drawings regularly every three months instead of Semi-Annually as heretofore, beginning March, 1886.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A FORTUNE. FIRST GRAND DRAWING, CLASS A, IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, January 12, 1886—188th Monthly Drawing.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $75,000.

100,000 Tickets at Five Dollars Each. Fractions, in Fifths, in proportion.

LIST OF PRIZES.

1	CAPITAL PRIZE	$75,000
1	do do	25,000
1	do do	10,000
2	PRIZES OF $5,000	10,000
10	do 1,000	10,000
20	do 500	10,000
100	do 200	20,000
200	do 100	20,000
500	do 50	25,000
1000	do 25	25,000

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

9	Approximation Prizes of $750	6,750
9	do do 500	4,500
9	do do 250	2,250
1967	Prizes, amounting to	$280,500

Application for rates to clubs should be made only to the office of the Company in New Orleans. For further information write clearly, giving full address. POSTAL NOTES, Express Money Orders or New York Exchange in ordinary letter. Currency by Express at sums of $5 and upwards at our expense addressed

M. A. DAUPHIN,
New Orleans, La.
or M. A. DAUPHIN,
Washington, D. C.

Make P. O. Money Orders Payable and address Registered Letters to

NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL BANK,
New Orleans, La.

Read Carefully the Last Paragraph of this Advertisement.

BOOKS

FOR WINTER READING!

With or Without the BLADE.

ALSO

WATCHES, Etc.

The following books are of our own publication and give a variety of pleasant reading and valuable information that no family should be without. We make prices less than half of book store prices, and we prepay postage to your very door. Whether for family reading or presents to your friends, every reader of the BLADE should order a copy of each. Order one copy first, to see how much we give for the money, after which you will be sure to order the whole list.

Nasby in Exile.

The travels of D. R. Locke in Europe, one of the most entertaining books of travel ever written. Profusely illustrated; 700 pages. Original price $3.50. Present price, prepaid by mail, $1.25.

Andersonville.

A Story of Southern Prisons, by John McElroy. This is the only correct history of Southern prisons ever written, and one of the most entertaining as well as truthful books ever published. Old price, $5.00; now, postpaid by mail, $1.85.

OLD DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES.

the best book of recipes and the most reliable ever printed. It has always sold for $2.00. Price now postpaid by mail, $2.00.

Health and Beauty,

by Miss Emily S. Routen. There is no more valuable book ever written for women and girls. It contains plain and reliable directions for attaining and retaining health and beauty, and is indispensable. Price, $1.00, postpaid by mail.

Social Etiquette,

another book for the young of both sexes, by the same author. All the forms and observances of good society, with the reasons for and the philosophy thereof, are plainly stated. Every young person should have this book, as well as a great many old ones. Price $1.00, postpaid by mail.

LIFE AND DEEDS OF GRANT,

By Rev. P. C. Headley and Geo. Lowell Austin. This is beyond question the best life of Grant ever written, because it is the fullest and goes more thoroughly into detail. It commences with the boyhood of the great soldier and statesman, and gives a full and complete account of him to his obsequies. It is profusely illustrated with original pictures, beautifully engraved, including a steel portrait of the General. It is a book of nearly 500 pages, well printed and substantially bound. The regular price is $1.50, and it is richly worth it to anybody. $1.25. Postpaid by mail.

BUNYAN'S PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

This magnificent steel engraving was never sold for less than $30, and it is richly worth it. It is the most valuable steel plate with one exception, that was ever engraved, and should be on the walls of every house, in 10 fac-simile. It tells the whole story of the Pilgrim's Progress. Postpaid by mail, $1.25.

THE NASBY WATCH.

This is the well known Waterbury watch, manufactured expressly for the BLADE, and stamped "Nasby." There is no necessity of making any comment upon this marvel of cheapness and excellence. We have sold thousands of them. Regular price, $3.50. Postpaid by mail.

Little Detective Scale

Price, $5.00. Blade, one year, and these Scales, $4.25.

With or without scoop. Scale without scoop and WEEKLY BLADE one year, $3.00, which is just the price of the Scale.

This little scale is made with Steel Bearings and Brass beam, and will weigh accurately any parcel from 1 oz. to 25 lbs. It is intended to supply the great demand for a Housekeeper's scale. Nothing of the kind has ever been sold before for less than from $3 to $5. Every Scale is perfect and will last a person's lifetime.

It is also valuable in every office for weighing mail matter. There is no better Scale made for Postmasters, as it is as nicely adjusted as any Letter Balance. By express at expense of the purchaser.

Union or Family Scales.

Is made of nice smooth castings, heavy Tin Scoop, and a neat Brass Beam, with upper row of figures for ounces, and lower row for pattern, Japanned back, neatly striped and bronzed.

This is a useful Family Scale, especially for farmers. Small parcels from one-half ounce up can be weighed in the scoop, and large packages, up to 240 pounds, on the platform. The platform is twenty inches, being large enough to weigh quite a good sized box of soap or maple sugar, a barrel of potatoes or flour, a tub of butter, a cheese, sack of grain or wool, a quarter of beef, a dressed hog, and many other things that it is desirable to weigh. By express at the expense of the purchaser.

NOW READ THESE COMBINATION OFFERS:

"NASBY IN EXILE," by mail, postpaid	$1.20
"NASBY IN EXILE," and the BLADE one year	2.10
OLD DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES," by mail postpaid	2.00
"OLD DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES" and the WEEKLY BLADE one year	2.85
"ANDERSONVILLE," by mail, postpaid	1.25
"ANDERSONVILLE," and the WEEKLY BLADE one year	2.10
"HEALTH AND BEAUTY" and the WEEKLY BLADE one year	1.85
"SOCIAL ETIQUETTE," by mail, postpaid	1.00
"SOCIAL ETIQUETTE" and the WEEKLY BLADE one year	1.85
The Steel Engraving, "PILGRIM'S PROGRESS"	1.25
The Steel Engraving, PILGRIM'S PROGRESS, and the BLADE one year	2.00
THE WATERBURY WATCH, by mail, postpaid	3.50
THE WATERBURY WATCH and the BLADE one year	3.50
"LIFE AND DEEDS OF GRANT," by mail, postpaid	1.25
"LIFE AND DEEDS OF GRANT" and the WEEKLY BLADE one year	2.00

Every family in the United States ought to have the BLADE and all the articles. Address

BLADE, Toledo, O.

KENSINGTON OUTFIT WORTH $8.80 FOR ONLY $1.00

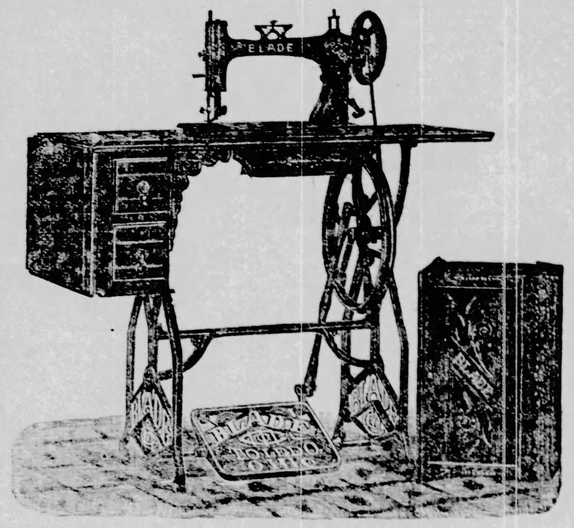
As all the ladies are interested in Kensington and fancy work, we have prepared a complete outfit for every branch of Kensington, Embroidery, Fishing and Fancy Work, containing all the articles enumerated below, and put up in an handsome Lisbon Alligator, Nickel trimmed Shopping Bag, (see illustration) with nickel clasps, and leather chain. This Bag contains a full outfit for Kensington Stamping, Embroidery and Painting, as follows:

100 Perforated Stamping Patterns, retail price	$6.50
1 Box White Powder, retail price	.05
1 Box Blue Powder, retail price	.05
2 Patent reversible Pen-sets, retail price	.10
1 Manual of Kensington and Fancy Work, retail price	.25
1 Red Satin Banner 9 x 18 inches, stamped,	.25
25 Assorted Fancy Work Needles,	.10
1 Kensington Pen for Painting,	.10
1 Camel's Hair Brush for Lustre Painting,	.10
3 Assorted Colors of Genuine Tube Paints,	.30
1 Pkg. Assorted Embroidery Silk, Chenille and Arasene,	.30
	$8.80

All the above, neatly packed in an Alligator Shopping Bag as per cut, postpaid, for only $1.00. Among the 100 Perforated Stamping Patterns are Golden Rod, Stitches; Bunches of Peaches, 4 in.; Pine Needles, 2 1-2 in.; Butter Cups, 1 1-2 in.; Clusters of Grapes, 3 in.; Wild Roses, 4 in.; Daisies, 3 in.; Calla Lily, 4 in.; Pond Lily, 4 in.; Sprigs of Jessamine, 3 in.; Thistles, 6 in.; Lily of the Valley, 4 in.; Moss Rose, 3 in.; Cat-tails, 8 in.; Daisy and Forget-me-not Border, 6 in.; 4 Scallops for Skirts, 8 in.; Spider in Web Corner, 3 in.; 4 Sprigs of Ferns, 3 1-2 in. 10 assorted Initials, (new); also Peacock Feathers, Girls, Boys, Dogs, Butterflies, Grasshoppers, Spiders, Flies, Dogs, Owls, Bicycles, Roller Skates, Storks, Crazy Stitch Patterns, Lace Stitch Patterns, Borders and many others ranging in size from 1 in. to 8 in., also a Complete Alphabet, entirely new. These patterns are all new, prepared expressly for this Kensington Outfit, on heavy parchment bond paper, and are handled by no other house. THE FANCY WORK MANUAL is a new book by the well-known authoress Madame Worth, and contains full directions and instructions in Kensington Stamping and Embroidery, Kensington, Lustre, Metallic and Iridescent Painting, Tinsel Work, Ribbon Embroidery, Wax Work and every description of Fancy Needle and Crochet Work. It contains over 200 Original Illustrations and is the most complete book ever published. THE SATIN BANNER sent with outfit is the finest for painting with a beautiful design of Golden Rod and Thistle, which, finished in colors on the red satin background makes a lovely and striking effect. These with the other articles named above, in the Alligator Shopping Bag, make the most complete outfit for Kensington or Fancy Work ever offered. With this outfit any lady can learn Kensington or children's Kensington or Fancy Work, and many a lady has earned a handsome income or children's clothing or made a snug little sum for herself by doing stamping for her neighbors. Many ladies are supporting themselves by doing stamping and Painting with an outfit not as good as this. So confident are we that this outfit will give perfect satisfaction or cheerfully refund money to any lady who is dissatisfied on receiving it. This outfit is sold ordinarily by single pieces at retail for $8.80. We will send it post paid for only $1.00, and pack it in a nice shopping bag that you can use with or without the outfit. For our responsibility we refer to any Bank or Commercial Agency.

Conn. Manufacturing Co., Hartford, Conn.

A DOMESTIC REVOLUTION.



The Blade Sewing Machine.

The above is a correct representation of the BLADE Sew

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for this department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write "Household Department" on the envelope.

2. Give real name and Post-office address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.

3. Write only on one side of the paper. Write PLAINLY. Do not interline. Write BRIEFLY.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

"God give you merry Christmas,
And a bright and jolly hour;
A bounteous health, sufficient wealth,
Firm friends your days to cheer;
A trusting heart that knows no art,
And a soul that knows no fear."

HOME TALKS.

CHARITY VS. GOSSIP.

"Who told you?"

"Mrs. C., and she says that everybody is talking about it.'

"And she is one of the busiest of the 'everybodies.' I do not believe a word of it. It is the easiest thing in the world to guess a thing is so, to speak in that way to someone, and then forget someone to repeat it as truth, verily thinking that she heard it as a fact. Such a thing grows too, just like a rolled snowball, until its gets so big that it cannot be moved out of sight. It takes up all the dirt in its way, and, in truth, unlike the snow mountain it is pretty much all filth. Unfortunately, it don't melt away with the coming of spring time. Don't tell the story to another human being. Think of the trouble it would make should it reach the husband's ears."

A quick look of apprehension crossed the listener's face.

"They say," she answered slowly, "that he has heard of it, and that he threatens to send her home to her mother, he is so angry."

It was not necessary to hear any more of the conversation to understand that a social scandal, resulting perhaps in a tragedy was impending. The lady in the case was a bright young married woman whose pulses were aglow with the mere pleasure of living. Full of light, and life, and gaiety, pretty and engaging, with no more thought of evil in her heart, than as if she were a bird, with her wings yet unclipped by the scissors of care and sorrow, she had laughed and danced and sung through the season, with a thoughtless disregard of criticism which had brought about the sure result. And yet it was so plain that all she thought about was to have a good time, that it seemed strange she should be so misjudged. Reckless tongues had been set to wagging, a husband's jealousy aroused, and who can tell the ending.

She should avoid the appearance of evil, say you.

How easy to assert, how difficult to do, in a world where are always hearts with the seeds of evil ready to sow. Did she walk now by plummet line, envy and malice would still declare it crooked, and do their best to make it look so in the eyes of the community. And community is apt to accept this view, not that it has any real ill-will towards her, but it is a new excitement, a matter of surprise, something of interest to talk about, it causes a sensation, and sensation is the order of the day. Few stop to think of all the far-reaching consequences of thus throwing a shadow upon a woman's character.

I have nothing to say to real, thorough going scandal-mongers of whom there are more than enough, men as well as women, in every society, those who will murder a reputation with as little conscience as a butcher has in slaughtering his cattle for market. Could there be a law providing a death penalty for such, it would be simple justice. They are worse than he who takes only the life of the body, but unfortunately they are rarely reached and punished. To appeal to them in any way is worse than useless.

I am talking now to women, good women, conscientious women, who mean to do right, or at least intend no wrong. Do not smooth down your plumage, self satisfied that in this one direction you are void of offence. I will venture to say that not one of us can shake our skirts entirely free from this sin. Stop and think.

Have you never repeated a story about another woman, trifling in itself, it may be, but yet which would serve as a foundation for the blackening of her character, if added to or strengthened in any way?

Did you ever sit silent when some piece of gossip was airily detailed in your presence, because you "knew nothing about it, and was not going to be mixed up in such matters?"

Have you ever commeated upon some action of your neighbors which you did not understand, in a way that would convey the idea that something was wrong?

Do you at all times and in all places defend the character of a woman which is aspersed, when the charges against her rests upon what "people say" and there is no proof of their truth whatever?

Do you invariably believe, or act as if you believed, that your sister woman is innocent of wrong intention until the contrary is proven absolutely? Do you show her by your treatment that you have faith in her womanhood, even if gossip has taken her name lightly?

I know what some of you will answer to this last question,—that women dare not do otherwise than shun the suspected for their own sake. Well, if your reputation can be smirched in that way, better let it go to pieces, and work up a new one made of firmer material.

Hard as it may seem to say, it is yet nevertheless true, that the first spot upon the whiteness of a woman's name is placed there, nine times out of ten, by those she calls her friends and acquaintances. They do not mean to do it. They would be shocked to know it was their work. And they would be deeply distressed were they convinced that by word or act of theirs it had been constantly deepened. And yet it was.

"We had a jolly time last night," says number one; "Mrs. A. drank some cider, which went straight to her head, and you can't imagine how comically she acted."

"They had company over to D.'s the other night," says number two, "and Mrs. A. drank so much wine or cider that she didn't know what she was about."

"They do say," says number three confidentially to some friends, "that Mrs. A. has got into the habit of taking stimulants, and the other night at Mrs. D.'s she was actually drunk."

And so it goes on until Mrs. A. is written down in the thoughts of the community as a woman who is going to the dogs through a love of strong drink.

Here is another case:

"That Mrs. Y., who has just come here, must be a very attractive woman, I think," says number one, "for Mr. F. actually talked to her a good half hour at the reception the other evening, and had eyes nor ears for any one else."

That is enough. Number two hears, and this is her version:

"Have you met the Y.'s yet? *She* is quite a pretty woman, but I guess she knows how to flirt pretty well, for she kept Mr. F. talking to her at the reception the other evening ever and ever so long, and you know how fastidious he is."

Number three reports:

"That Mrs. Y. is a very pretty woman, but her husband better look out for her. She has gotten up a desperate flirtation with Mr. F., so soon, and the way they go on—well!" A crescendo of exclamation points can no more than point that "well."

Before the season is over Mrs. Y. and Mr. F. are upon society's records, as on the point of eloping. Every motion is watched, every heedless word they are heard to utter is weighed. By and by Mrs. Y's careless unconsciousness is broken in upon by some whisper of what is going on. One of two effects follow: She is either crushed and heartbroken, or she becomes defiant, and possibly through that defiance what this sort of gossip has labored to make her.

"Society must protect itself." That is true, but society can better afford to be a hundred times deceived than to misjudge one innocent person, for the consequences are not so tragic.

It is the duty of every woman to guard the good name of every other woman as carefully as she would her own. If you are true to the womanhood within you, this will be your rule of conduct. Believe the best of every one, man or woman, and when you feel inclined to judge harshly, look over your own life, and see if you cannot find thoughtless, heedless actions, that, if known, would have brought cruel criticism upon you. If you cannot, you are, indeed, an exceptional and most fortunate woman. I have only this to add, however: They who have the least charity, who are the most ready to censure severely, are almost universally those whose lives can least bear the sunlight upon their hidden places.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

Sofa Pillow or Chair Back Cover.—This is made of a combination of plush and linen. Cut both in squares of equal size. Make these not less than two inches square, nor more than four. Etch pretty designs in the linen squares, leaving the plush plain. A very pretty design is three over-lapping circles, using different colors or combinations of colors in the different squares. Or each one may have some flower, which will give variety. Baste the squares on a lining and sew them down with fancy stitches as in a crazy quilt.

Rolling Pin Bangle Board.—Get a small wooden rolling pin which comes for that purpose, cover the center with plush, neatly sewed on, fill the ends, put in a row of screws, and tie ribbons on each end to hang it up by.

The patterns in "Fancy Work and House Decoration" are all new and exceedingly pretty. Send 25 cents to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., and get one.

Mother Hubbard Hood.—A Reader of the BLADE asked for directions for making a Mother Hubbard hood. I will tell her how I made mine, which is of white Saxony. I knit it round just as I would a lamb mat, only larger. Any stitch can be used; mine is shell. After getting it large enough, I knit large scallops all around, edging them again with loose scallops of split zephyr. Just above the large scallops I run a piece of white rubber large enough to go round the head, and over that run narrow white satin ribbon, put ties of the same on, and a small bow on the center of the crown. The rubber is to make it fit close to the head, and forms a pretty frill around the face. This is something new, and I thank you kindly.—CHRISTABEL DYDA, Mo.

Finish for Lambrequins.—I would like to tell the ladies who are, like myself, interested in fancy work, of something very pretty for finishing lambrequins for shelves and other articles. Gather scorns when they begin to fall, take off the stems, leaving the cup on; then take linen thread and make a large knot on the end and with a needle put it through the acorn; then cut the thread several inches from the acorn, so that you will have thread to sew them on whatever you wish to use them for. I then gild them and they are ready for use, and are very pretty, especially for points.—A FRIEND OF THE BLADE.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; t t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; n, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—ch, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; sl ch st, close chain stitch; d c st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st, crossed treble stitch; s sh st, short shell stitch; o sh st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

Lace Edging.—Cast on fifteen stitches and knit across plain. 1st row—sl 1—k 1—tto twice—p 2 tog—k 1—t t o—n—k 3—t to twice—p 2 tog—k 1—t t o—k 2. 2d row—k 2—p 1—k 1—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 4—p 1—k 1—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 2. 3d row—k 1—t t o—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—n—k 2—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 2—t t o—k 2. 4th row—k 2—p 1—k 2—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 3—p 1—k 3—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 2. 5th row—sl 1—k 1—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 3 t t o—n—k 1—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 3—t t o—k 2. 6th row—k 2—p 1—k 3—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 2—p 1—k 3—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 2. 7th row—sl 1—k 1—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 4—t t o—n—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 1. 8th row—cast off 3—k 2—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 1—p 1—k 4—t t o twice—p 2 tog—k 2. Repeat.

Lace Insertion.—Cast on thirteen stitches and knit across once plain. 1st row—k 1—t t o—n—k 3—t t o—n—k 3—t t o—n. 2d, 4th and 6th rows—k 3—p 7—k 3. 3d row—k 1—t t o—n—k 1—n—t t o—k 1—t t o—n—k 2—t t o—n. 5th row—k 1—t t o—n—n—t t o—k 3—t t o—n—k 1—t t o—n. 7th row—k 1—t t o—sl 1—n—pass sl over—t t o—k 5—t t o—n—t t o—n. 8th row—same as 2d. Repeat.

Correspondence.

SHE HAS HER SAY AND SAYS IT WELL.—For many years the Toledo BLADE has been my "stand-by." I looked upon it in all matters as the *Ne plus ultra* of a family newspaper. I came to consider it, like the Pope of Rome, infallible. I regulated my comings and goings by the BLADE. I arose and retired by the BLADE. I took oath on the BLADE. But I am sorry to say that my faith in the wisdom of the good old paper has received a severe blow. All on account of a little article in weekly of November 5 on feminine hair. I quote from BLADE: "The most silly of feminine fashions that has yet come to the front is the short hair mania." Did ever one expect to hear such declaration as this from a thinker of the nineteenth century? Where, Oh! BLADE are your progressive views if you hold that we, because we are women, must forever wear the Pagan appendage, long hair. We have been traveling nineteen centuries on the road toward civilization, and have got only half way there. In proof of which I cite you to the fact that only half our population (males) have short hair, while the other half (females) still wears the heathen queue.

Let us view the subject from a humane standpoint. There is no torture to a child so diabolically infernal as the suffering inflicted by dressing long hair. I write from sorrowful experience. How many small victims to the heathen fashion do we see daily protesting, with screams and tears, against their martyrdom! How many, many times when I was small, have my own eyeballs seemed to tingle with acute misery while my nerves in my body were drawn to tightest tension, and my small fists doubled as if my agony was a thing of shape that I might fight. Oh! those inhuman cruelties! The remembrance of them forces the tears to my eyes even now, though more than thirty years have intervened since they began. From another standpoint, that of cleanliness, long hair is still more aggravating. Small wonder it is, because we are women, carry around fevers and diphtheria in our pestilential topknots? No woman with long hair lives but knows of the foul smells bred and kept in her beautiful (?) hair. Could the number be told of all who have fallen victims to an infectious disease, carried and propagated in the effluvia from unclean hair, the public would be startled.

A young girl once stood before me arranging her hair, which hung in two braids far below her waist. It was long, luxuriant and of a beautiful shade of brown that resembled a ripe chestnut. Her hair was both the pride and envy of her girl friends. I said to her: "Clara, what beautiful hair you have, *Y*—s," she replied, "but it smells awful." I looked commiseration, but no surprise. She continued: "Why, only the other day it smelled so badly that it *stopped the clock.*" There is a volume for you in a nut shell. Every head of long hair smells in summer so that like Bob Burdette, we might see it with our nose. Wash the hair do you say? Yes, and take cold. Besides no amount of washing will do. It will sour before it will dry. Perspiration from the head keeps it forever sour and damp in summer time.

There is no way to keep the head sweet and clean but to crop the hair, and I for one wish a law might be passed, making it a crime (with first penalty *capital punishment*, or almost) for a man, woman or child to wear hair on their heads over an inch long. I am well aware that I am treading on dangerous ground in making this assertion. But I am also aware that I am echoing the voice of thousands of my sex, who would, if they dared, brave the ouus of public opinion established by prejudice and long custom, and thank me for thus tackling the shackles that have so long bound them. Nothing is so hard to uproot as prejudice, especially in hearts whose soil has never been fertilized and expanded by culture. From BLADE again: "A woman's face does not bear the removal of the tresses that is her crowning glory." What a senseless assertion. A woman's face is a woman's face, without the topknot, or with it. "A crop-haired girl is a sexless thing." Another baseless fabrication. I defy you to prove it. Ladies, do not let us rest under these imputations. Many of you, I know, are with me in these bold and radical assertions. All would be, if they would consult their own personal feelings. I have written strongly on this subject because I feel strongly. I have suffered from the fashion I would put down. Fashion establishes an unwritten decree. For two thousand years she has said women must wear long hair. Now she comes with gentle footstep to loose the iron yoke and set the captives free. Hail, fashion. All hail. Come, ministrant spirit—not as the roaring storm or the clash of a new administration, but softly, sweetly as the breath of spring. Come; I open my arms and bid you welcome. To you, kind liberator, I tender my obligation, the tresses when they are shorn. Do not, oh, Fashion, decree that we shall wear them longer, or I shall exclaim: "Get you out oh! me, too! oh! me some more!!" When I am crop-eared, and not till then, can I welcome you with a happy heart and a clean head.—AILEEN.

ECONOMY FROM THE START.—In reply to "A Distracted Husband and Father," I will say it appears plain to me what course he should pursue. Now let us reason this matter a little. My dear sir, there is a responsibility resting upon you, and it appears you are shirking that responsibility through fear of public comment. I am of the opinion you have allowed your family to practice extravagance from the start. When you took the mother of those children for your "lawful wife," if you were then a poor man, did you strive to set an example in the way of saving? As children were presented you, did you, as they arrived at years of understanding, instruct them after the same manner? Even at this present time, if you are able to the law, give them that. That "7-year old" of yours, and as many others as you can handle, if they don't mind you, trim your orchard for their benefit. Now stiffen your upper lip and go to work and you will be surprised how quickly they will own "dad" is boss.—A. B. W., White Rock, Kan.

AN OLD FRIEND.—It has been nearly three years since I wrote to you. I was then in Missouri, and wrote as a "Hired Girl." But since then I have attended the Western Union Telegraph college at Athus, Ark., and now I write as telegraph operator. But I am compelled to stay in my old profession, for as yet I have been unlucky in getting a position, and I am just beginning to realize how diminutive woman's rights are. Now I think I have just as good right to an office as some of the no count men they have in offices. But all the railways up will say, "You can't handle freight." Well, I guess if you will give me a porter I can "boss him." And our freight will be O. K.

Girls, all of you learn telegraphy and we will get on the good side of the superintendent of some road—if they have any good side—and run the business, and let the men go to work for a living.

I think women should be allowed the school teaching and light employments, and if I was a man all such employment would be beneath my notice. I would just be a candidate for some Democratic office.

I want to renew some of my old correspondence, but have lost most of the addresses. Would be glad to hear from you all again, especially the dear (?) old bachelors that used to send the tiniest letters in a large yellow envelope, pasted in the upper left hand corner. But they were immense; and, to be sure of an answer, they always sent stamp for reply, and generally their object was "matrimony." Girls, that shows that you all ought to be kind to old bachelors, because it is not their fault if they don't get married.

I should like to hear from some of the new members of the dear old HOUSEHOLD, and from Ellis Henshaw. I will tell you something about Arkansas and cotton raising in my next. This is a splendid place for any one who is looking for a new location; very healthy and sparsely settled so far, but being settled very fast—R. E. BEAUCHMIN.

THANKSGIVING.—I wish to express my appreciation of Miss Bouton's "Home Talk", on Thanksgiving day, especially the last cause mentioned for thankfulness. Cloud or sunshine, storm or calm can but slightly affect the peaceful tranquility of those who have drank of the water of life. There are many sins and aspirations in life that are good and noble, which when pursued, do not yield the happiness the soul craves because they are but fractions of the unit which each of us should represent, that of a soul in perfect harmony with the creator. This attained every pursuit in life on which we may invoke the blessings of heaven, will bring sure rewards of happiness for "that peace which the world can not give, neither can it take away, will be ours in health, in sickness, in joy, in sorrow. We are told that in the world ye shall have tribulations, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Above and beyond the chances of earth there lies a sea into whose tranquil waters the Christian casts his anchor and finds rest; 'tis the boundless ocean of God's love to man.—M., Atlantic, Ia.

Inquiries.

Will some one please give directions for some new way to crochet a ladies' hood; also, a recipe for stamping powder to stamp on cotton; also, a correct rule for knitting ladies' stockings?—ELLA.

Will some one please tell how to cleanse and take the grease out of skunk skins? Are they then tanned same as gray squirrel skins?—J. L. WENTWORTH, Appleton, Me.

Will some of the members of the HOUSEHOLD tell me the exact quantity to use, of sulphate of barium for removing superfluous hair? I know there has been several different directions given on this subject, but to my reason, none give the exact amount of the barium to be used to make a strong solution. Will some one who has tried this report through the HOUSEHOLD, and greatly oblige—A READER.

Will some one tell me how to color a hair switch black.—NEW SUBSCRIBER.

I have a spotted calla lily. Will some of the HOUSEHOLD tell me how to make it grow. Must I water it this winter, or wait until spring?—MRS. E. J. ELLIS, Coffeysburg, Mo.

Many thanks to the ladies that gave directions for double-heel for stocking. Will geraniums blossom by being kept turned around different sides to the light? I have heard they would not but few of mine blossom. Will W. W. Cranston give address, as my name is the same, and no dmany by that name?—Mrs. F. H. C.

Will some one acquainted with cipher work ting please explain these figures, "3:45: 13, 6," also the method, and oblige—A READER?

We have several skins of coyotes and grey wolves, and will be glad if some reader of the BLADE would give directions for curing them.—C. M.

Has anyone the back numbers of *Peterson's Magazine* for the year 1875, which they would send me if I paid postage? I wish some one would send more pretty crochet patterns, as I like them much better than the knitted ones. God bless the BLADE for its work in temperance.—A NEBRASKA GIRL.

Please give me a cure for ring-worm, a kind of a skin disease.—SUBSCRIBER.

Please give a recipe for sweetening and coloring pop corn.—A READER.

Can I get two plates of Pilgrim Progress and one BLADE for $3? I want plate and BLADE myself and a plate to send to England.

You can. Write to business department.—ED.

Will some one please give a cure for bladder troubles? Also, I have a little girl that is partly paralyzed; cannot walk; the cords underneath knee seems to be drawn, so that she cannot straighten her limb. Can some one give a recipe for a liniment to rub on, or tell of something that will help her?—SUBSCRIBER.

Rub underneath and over the knee several times a day with alcohol in which is a handful of sea salt. Rub until you bring the blood to the surface, every time. Electricity applied by some good physician would be good for her, but if you cannot have that at once, try the rubbing and do it thoroughly.—ED.

Answers to Inquiries.

Will you print another answer to the inquiry as to the common name of Greek Valerian? The most common name for the plant Polemonium reputatum is "Jacob's Ladder," the next most common is Greek Valerian. Prof. Asa Gray gives the three names. I think "Blue Bells" is too common, since the term is common to a great many plants in household phraseology. I am glad to learn that "Jacob's Ladder" is a remedy for my catarrh.—ADA.

In answer to the question often asked in the HOUSEHOLD, what will prevent the hair from coming out, I will give the following recipe, which I know to be good, for I have used it and know others who have tried it, and have never failed in the result: ½ pt. alcohol; ½ oz. ammonia; ½ oz. glycerine, ¼ pt. rain water and a few drops of some nice perfume to destroy the perfumes of the ammonia. Use once a day. This keeps the hair from falling out and makes it grow heavier and longer. Hoping this will do some good, as it has me, I remain—A CONSTANT READER.

Please publish the recipe for cancer cure as asked for: 1 oz. of stained honey, 1 oz. of camphor gum, 1 oz. of fresh butter, 1 oz. of copperas, 1 oz. of alum; the copperas and alum to be burned to a cinder. That is done by putting them in a stove pan and then in the stove. The camphor you cut up fine. Then mix all the ingredients together, which makes a salve. Spread that thinly on a piece of linen cloth large enough to cover all the affected part. But before that, clean, then apply this cancer cure. If it should become too painful to bear, take off and let the cancer cool while, then put it back again. Keep repeating this until it takes the cancer out by the roots. Renew the plaster once in 24 hours. I am no cancer doctor myself—I only had the recipe published by the request of an old lady. She wanted everybody to have the benefit of it.—S. W. CAVANAH, Vanderburg, Ky.

The above is published in the HOUSEHOLD a second time because it has been asked for repeatedly. The remedy may be an excellent one, but cancer is a terrible disease to try experiments with, and we should advise any one afflicted to be very careful. Personally we know nothing about the cure.—ED.

Seeing in your valuable paper the question asked, "What will cure quinsy; also what will cure inflammatory rheumatism," and not seeing an answer given, I will send my cure. I think if those afflicted with quinsy will try smoking wormwood they will find a cure if commenced in time. Those with inflammatory rheumatism bathe the affected parts with mackerel brine, or, if convenient, wet flannel in mackerel brine and bind on the afflicted part.—J. C. ROBINSON, Federal, Athens county, O.

If "Newcomers" way of ridding canaries of red mites is not satisfactory, try my way which has been tried with good results. Place in the cage for a perch a hollow reed with three or four gimlet holes along it. The mites will hide in it with the return of light and can be readily shaken from it in boiling water. In a short time the insects can all be destroyed by this easy process.—ENQUIRER.

If "Sallie" will send me her name and address I will send her a description of one of the best games for a social gathering that can be found. I will be glad to assist "Encouraged Teacher," too, if she will write me. — MRS. WALTER CRANSTON, Woodstock, O.

We should be very glad if our friend would send a description of the game to the HOUSEHOLD so all of its readers may have the benefit of it.—ED.

Recipes.

White Wine Vinegar.—A few weeks ago I saw in the BLADE somebody wanted a recipe for making white wine vinegar. The following is good: Take acetic acid, 4 lbs.; molasses, 1 gal.; put them into a 40-gallon cask and fill it with rain water; shake it up and let stand from one to three weeks. The result is good vinegar. Or, take 1 lb. of this acid and seven times as much water, and you will have as good vinegar as can be made from cider, and that instantaneously.

Acetic acid is said to be made of vinegar concentrated. I give the recipe as I have it, as I have never tried it.—THOMAS BANKS, Arrowsmith, McLean county, Ill.

Apple Pudding.—1 cupful sweet milk, 1 egg; 1 teaspoonful of baking powder; flour enough to make a stiff batter. Pour over quartered apples and steam two hours.

Bread Cake.—1 pint of dough; 1 cupful of butter; 2 cupfuls of sugar; ½ cupful of sour cream; 3 eggs; 1 teaspoonful of saleratus; cinnamon or nutmeg to suit the taste. Let rise before putting in the pan and one hour afterwards.

To Remove Iron Rust from Cloth.—Cover the spots with table salt and squeeze enough lemon juice over it to dissolve the salt; spread the cloth in the sun, and the spots will soon vanish; then wash it out in hot water.

To Prevent Hair from Falling Off.—Glycerine and tincture of capsicum, each 2 ounces; oil of bergamot, 1 drachm. Mix well and apply a small quantity by rubbing it into the scalp thoroughly every night. Wash the head occasionally with soft water and soap. The juice from a wild grape vine will cause the hair to grow in length. Do any of the sisters know of a remedy for neuralgia of the stomach?—MRS. L. H. DOLPH, McBrick, Mich.

Inks.—In the HOUSEHOLD of December 3 I saw a request for ink recipes. Below I send several recipes for ink which I can guarantee to be good and the readers of the BLADE should cut them out and save them. —COUNTRY COUSIN.

Black Copying Ink.—Rain water, 2 gals.; gum arabic, ¼ lb.; brown sugar, ½ lb.; copperas, ¾ lb.; powdered nutgalls, ¾ lb. Bruise all and mix, shaking occasionally, for ten days. This will keep writing good for hundreds of years to come used for copying deeds, etc.

Red Ink.—No. 40 carmine, 6 grs.; No. 6 or 8 carmine, 5 grs.; gum arabic, a piece the size of two peas. Put in an ounce vial and fill up with water.

Blue Ink.—Sulphate of indigo and water.

Common Black Ink.—Logwood chips, 1 lb.; boil in 6 qts. of water until reduced to 2 qts. Repeat the boiling again as before. Mix the two waters—1 gal. in all. Then add bi-chromate of potash, ¾ oz.; prussiate of potash, ¼ oz.; prussiate of iron, ¾ oz. Boil again about five minutes and strain and bottle for use.

Ink Powder—Black.—Sulphate of copper, 1 dr.; gum arabic, ¼ oz.; copperas, 1 oz.; nutgalls and extract of logwood, 4 ozs. each. To be pulverized and evenly mixed. Will make 6 qts. of good ink. In making, use boiling water. Let stand two weeks before using. One oz. of this mixture will require 1 pt. of boiling water.

Indelible Ink.—Nitrate of silver 22 grs. Dissolve it in water of ammonia 2 fluid drs. In 5 teaspoonfuls of rain water dissolve 40 grs. gum arabic. When the gum is dissolved put in the same vial also carbonate of ammonia 44 grs. When all is well dissolved mix both vials or their contents and place the vial containing the mixture in a basin of water and boil until a black compound is the result. When cold it is ready for use. Have the linen or other goods starched and ironed and perfectly dry. Write with a quill pen. Use only glass vessels. These recipes are all good and cheaper than you can buy the ink already made.—COUNTRY COUSIN.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION

MOTTO: *Of Ourselves we will be Masters.*

Pledge.

WE DO HEREBY PROMISE OURSELVES THAT FROM THIS TIME UNTIL WE ARE 21 YEARS OLD WE WILL NOT TASTE INTOXICATING LIQUORS OF ANY KIND, AND WE WILL EXERT ALL OF OUR INFLUENCE TO PREVENT THEIR USE BY OTHERS. WITNESS OUR NAMES:

STOCKHOLM, N. J.	WAFELLO, IA.	INDUSTRY, PA.
Alice M Oakes,	Mattie B Hunt,	W I Cunningham
Maggie Bailey,	Lottie M Hunt,	Eva Cunningham
Mary Bell,	Ella Hunt,	L Cunningham.
Laura Cole,	Ralph Hunt.	EAST OTTO, PA.
John B Mead,	DARLINGTON, PA.	A T Hinman,
Minnie Cheney,	Emily V Cook,	Chas S Hinman,
Wesley Bailey,	L Gertrude Cook,	Fannie Chapman
Cynthia Cole,	Burt Judd	Lizzy F North,
Minnie Reed,	Willie Judd,	Ella Hatch,
Emma C Pierson,	Fred Wallace,	Lettie Reed,
Mary A Sloco,	Eddie Duff,	Mary Satterlin,
Mamie E Stringer,	Ella Duff,	Charlie Orlando,
Arthur Day,	W H Connaughey,	Ansel E Grimes,
Whitefield Day,	Frank Crawford,	Burt H Hinman.
Susie R Day,	Maud Gra Ford,	CENTRAL CITY, NEB
Ernest Crane,	John Marks,	Lela B Clark,
Anna Kimble,	Frank Sarles,	Ernest Clark,
Eugenia Kline,	Annie Sparks,	Ella Clark,
James Bailey,	Albert Norris,	Mark Martin,
Stephen Bailey,	Pearl Sias,	Myrtle Crites,
Sadie Bailey,	Lou Crawley,	Ida Orlando,
Pete N Pierson,	S S Standley,	Mary L Martin,
EXETER, NO.	O J Standley,	Fred D Warrick,
Jennie L Adcock,	Freddie Mallor,	Ralph Warrick,
F Abernathy,	Flora Foote,	Geo A Esser,
Katie Rogers,	Henry Templeton,	Albert V Wilson,
R Rogers, NO.	Artie Hilton,	Mary Bowles,
Johnnie Orr,	Roy Gilliam,	BUTLER, MO.
Fannie Orr,	M C Gilliam,	Fred F Reisner,
Joseph Orr, T.S	Ollie Spencer,	Jewel Woolery,
Ella Keeney,	Burt Hill,	Walton M Sea,
CHATHAM VALLEY,	Edwin E Dancer,	Jewel Woolery.
	Annie Sparks,	Albert Richards,
Harry T Hastings,	E Hathaway,	Leigh Pittman,
Myra A Hastings,	Peter Gotcher,	Vincent Pittman
W Cook,	Jas Mulally,	G Pittman,
E Chamberlain,	Freddie Mallor,	Alnira Pittman,
NEW BERLIN, PA.	Flora Foote,	Ralph Pittman,
Willie E Stringer,	Daisy Foote,	Mary Haynes,
Chas M Krise,	Gertie Whitney,	May Dooley,
MIDDLEBURY, O.	Daisy Hathaway,	Allee Fulkerson,
R W Woods,	Lewis Hathaway,	Susanna Anvil,
Samuel Woods,	G Hutchinson,	Mary A Heath,
ISOLA-DE LAKE, O.	Ora Hill,	Lewis M Dodds.
	Sadie Baker,	HARMER, O.
Jennie E Selvage,	Lottie Baker,	Edward Nold,
ROBERTS, S. T.	Katie Baker,	Hiram Moorhead
Walter Walsh,	Ada Gregory,	CARNAMAH CREEK,
LEMAY, MO.	Minnie Hill,	OR.
Goldie Crispell,	Pearlie Bowen,	Wm H Wreath,
Clifford Crispell,	Clara Hathaway,	Minnie S Wreath,
Clara Whitesell,	Jessie Hathaway,	Ida M Wreath,
Nellie Whitesell,	Effie M Dribbs,	Wallace Wreath,
Oliver Whitesell,	Maude Hathaway	Charlie Penn,
Wm Gordon,	Rosa Bowden,	Willie Penn,
F W Gordon,	Lizzie Roberts,	Wm A Tilton,
Olive Snyder,	Hattie B Wade,	James O Tilton,
Otto Snyder,	Ruth Oliver,	Mary Tilton,
Mary Tubbs,	Calvin Boylan,	Anna Tilton
Mary Tubbs,	Etta Boylan,	WESTON, O.
BERWICK, PA.	Lizzie Boylan,	Annie Roberts,
Eddie Harris,	George Smuck,	Cornelia Baldwin
Minnie Harris,	Lottie Smeed,	W A Spensarer,
Eva Harris,	Elmer Boylan,	Ida M Baldwin,
SISSETON, DA.	Bertha Boylan,	Burt G Roberts,
Nellie Berry,	Frank Boylan,	Ida M Baldwin.
Maude Berry,	Curtis Boylan,	Oliver Gould,
Annie Berry,	Sherman Boylan,	Lizzy Gould,
Minnie Berry,	John Boylan,	Edgar Larue,
HAMMAL, MO.	Aaron Boylan,	Lester Conway,
Eddie J Moore,	GRANGEVILLE, IA.	Ernest Conway,
Nellie Moore,	Ina Parmenter,	G W Acord,
N Scrogum,	Ina Parmenter,	G W Acord,
ZANESVILLE, O.	G Parmenter,	Ida M Acord.
Will Johnson,	Ed Parmenter,	Willie Gould,
LAWNDALE, ILL.	PLEASANT VALLEY,	Eddie Shamerson
Fred Vawter,	PA.	Stanley Dean,
Ella Vawter,	Edith Holcomb,	Stanley Seymour,
Lonnie Wilson,	Gracie Holcomb,	Stanley Seymour,
George Venrich,	Elsie Herring,	Chas A Seymour,
Clara Venrich,	Ella Herring,	Harry Seymour,
Bertie Brigham,	Carrie Foote,	MADISON, KAN.
JARVIS-ELLIWAY,	TONICA, ILL.	Lora Bloom,
Allen M Payne,	Orie Gould,	Mabel Flora,
Susie Payne,	Frances Seary,	F Hemenway,
CHERRY CAKE, W.	Minnie Hawley,	Tom Haggaton,
	Lena Cook,	Mary Seaman,
Lizzie Young,	Anna Cook,	Minnie Storey,
Willyette Young,	S Westmeier,	Leonard Storey,
Minnie Young,	Amy Westmeier,	Annie Seay,

Names this week, 338. Total, 2,265.

CHRISTMAS TIME.

I feel so happy I cannot keep still!
Just one day more and 'twill be Christmas day,
And all the house is full of secrets now,
And everybody whispers what they say.

When I go in the door, unless I knock,
Or rattle with my hand upon the latch,
Mamma hides something underneath her chair,
And aunty jumps up something else to snatch.

John's got a ball for Bess, and yesterday
He let me bounce it on the playroom floor,
And how we laughed when Bess came running
To ask about the racket at the door.

I've made a heart-shaped pin ball for papa,
And aunty's book mark now, at last, is done;
To-day I've been at work and can't guess
What I have for her—O, it is such fun!

To-night, when nurse went down to get our tea,
We watched the man lighting the lamps below,
And saw them twinkling up the long, long street,
Like a procession of stars down in the snow;

When jingle, jingle, straight up to our door
Came thro' the dusk a horse, and wagon, too,
And an jumped out with bundles in his arms,
And to the staircase all the children flew;

Then Jenny took them in, but ere we saw
Mamma ran up the stairs and drove us back,
But Rob said he was sure he saw a sled
When, naughty boy, he peeped out thro' the crack!

To-morrow night I shall not go to sleep,
But watch the window, Santa Claus to see,
I think he is papa, now he lives
In the spare-room and aunty has the key.

And all the bundles Jenny puts in there—
To-morrow how the bell will ring all day!
O dear! how I wish Christmas would come
And Santa Claus, and never go away.

For the Young Folks.

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

BY M. MOLINE.

Brilliantly, very brilliantly shone out the stars on Christmas eve. The silver moon fairly blazed in the darkened azure of the night from some overhead; the white frost gleamed and glistened on the crystal panes of mansion and cottage. It was piercing cold, but what did it matter, 'twas Christmas eve, and along the streets of the city the crowd surged to and fro. The shops as usual, were all aglow with their wealth of wondrous and beautiful things making little hearts glad and old ones rejoice; inside Santa was busy filling his capacious bag with huge waxen dollies, glittering drums, sprightly jacks, picture books outrivaling nature in their gorgeous colors, candies of every imaginable shape, rosy-cheeked apples and purple-faced plums, dates and figs, the richest in the land. Outside his fleet-limbed reindeers pranced and pawed the frozen ground, shaking from their fiery nostrils the icicles that looked like stalactites from some grim cavern. Many were the hearts that beat high with joy that night. Yes many, how I wish I could say all, but no, the sad and comfortless mingled there, and many a tear stained face was pressed against the frosty panes, and many a little voice lisped out, "Will Santa come to-night, mamma?" Sometimes a mother would answer her child, another would turn away to hide the tears that would spring up in voluntary from an overflowing heart. And it was Christmas eve! High up in an attic of a dark old building, two little faces peered out of a single pane in the one low room. It was Nono and Sep, two Italian children. All day they had stood on the busiest thoroughfares; Sep drawing forth his sweetest melodies from his dark, begrimed harp till his fingers were numb and blue. Nono had sung until her throat felt raw and sore, but all in vain, the people's pennies must go for something else, for this was Christmas night, and two little forms must go homeward with heavy hearts and aching hands. Softly, softly they stole up the rickety stairs, Nono taking the lead, Sep following, clinging tightly to his harp, his unseenly yet heartfelt friend. Entering, they found their father, a poor tailorer, sleeping soundly on his cot bed at the farther end of the room. They spoke in whispers as they moved about, and silently ate their frugal meal of black bread and curdled milk.

"I was thinking," said Nono, as she gazed from the window into the far distance, "of all the lights we saw in the great hall to-night, and I heard the children say that a big tree would be there and on it Santa Claus would put a present for everyone. Sep, why can't we go there?"

"Who is Santa Claus?" asked Sep, wonderingly. "We heard not of him in Rome."

"He is a great man who buys gifts for children," answered Nono, knowingly.

"For the rich," added Sep. "He will never buy any for us."

"We could try," pleaded Nono, whose eyes had feasted all day on the shining things in the shop windows.

"Father might wake and be angry, you know."

"But when we would come back with the gifts he would be glad."

But Sep only smiled

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions, answers and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Communications should be addressed to the editor, and on one side of the paper only, and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany the communication.

Information Wanted.

HUNGARIAN GRASS.—I would like all the information I can get in regard to raising Hungarian grass from some one who has raised it successfully. We have short summers with plenty of rain until July, and then generally excessive heat. When should Hungarian be cut to make the best feed for horses?—H. NESQUIER, Mingusville, Mich.

NEATSFOOT OIL.—LEG SORE.—Will you please answer through the BLADE the proper way to make neatsfoot oil? Also, what is the best thing to put on Clyde horse's legs? They break out with sores, and when I get them healed up a big scab always comes on the sore, and they will not heal. I have washed and rubbed dry and put on ointment on, but nothing seems to heal them so that the scabs will die away.—REUBEN, Winchester, Kan. [Neatsfoot oil is obtained by boiling neat's foot, tripe, etc., in water. To refine it, put a quart of the oil with half a pound of bright lead shavings, and half a pound of quicklime, pounded, into a glass bottle. Let it stand in the sun and light for two or three weeks, then put the oil and lime into saucepan with half a pound of washing soda. Boil gently fifteen minutes, then set in the coldest place possible till the next day, when it will be found congealed. Place it into a filter of white blotting paper, place a clean glass bottle under the filter, and you will get the finest oil, suitable for the finest machinery. Of the leg disease the description is not sufficiently full. It is very likely mallenders and sallenders. Healthy horses are subject to the disease. Wash the parts with tar dissolved in water or with soap and water, and apply this ointment, recommended by Mr. YOUATT: Acetate of lead, one ounce; tar, two ounces; lard, six ounces. Mix and apply to the part. Give the horse this alterative cathartic once a week for two weeks: Powdered Barbadoes aloes, two drachms; resin, three drachms; nitre, three drachms; ginger, two drachms; castile soap, two drachms. Beat up into a mass for one bolus. This is a highly useful, cooling laxative, with alterative action also. Do not give anything but light and easily digested food until the horse's system is all right to resist the disease. High authority recommends giving an ounce of Fowler's solution of arsenic in the drinking water of the horse once a day.—ED.

ITCH.—Our herds of cattle are seriously afflicted with itch. Please publish a cheap and certain remedy to oblige a patron.—S. H. CARTER, Francis, Okla. [Give sulphur one ounce, clipped in bits, two ounces, charcoal one gill, hard sufficient to mix. Make into six doses and give two a day in the feed to each animal. To prepare an ointment of spirits of turpentine one pint; sulphur three-quarters of a pound, and oil sufficient to reduce it to an ointment. Rub in gently. This ointment will keep for months if new butter without salt is used instead of oil. And for all diseases of the skin of cattle, sheep or hogs it is excellent.—ED.]

HOUDANS POULTRY.—I see by the BLADE sometimes where you answer questions on poultry and wish you would answer one for me. I set a hen last summer with Houdan's eggs and they hatched all right but one and that is in every shape and marks like a houdans except its color; it has ten toes, muffs and top knot, and is all white. What I want to know is if that breed ever hatches that way or not; it has four or five black feathers that show; I keep it from the rest; and no brown leghorns ever have any white feathers? Oblige an old reader.—GEORGE W. WATSON, Verplanck, N. Y. [The fowl you speak of has some of the characteristics of the Houdan, but it is not a pure, entire one. Color: Neck black and white, black slightly predominating; back black and white, black slightly predominating; breast and body black and white intermixed, black slightly predominating; wings black and white intermixed; wing bar secondaries black; primaries black and white intermixed; tail, black and white intermixed, black predominating. In brown leghorns, white or gray hackles, except a few black and under color of hackles or saddles, or sickles in cocks.—ED.]

OSAGE APPLES.—Will the BLADE please tell me the process of getting the seed out of osage apples.—GEO. FOSTER, Beaver Crossing. [To extract the seed from the Osage orange it is necessary to place the fruit in heaps till the tough, fibrous pulp surrounding the seed becomes soft. Then crush the fruit between rollers, or break it with a wooden mallets. Then wash out the seeds in a trough. The pulp being lighter than the seed is readily floated off. Where large quantities of the seed are to be obtained, a crushing apparatus, run by horse power, will very much facilitate and lessen the cost of obtaining clear seed.—ED.]

LICE.—Will the editor or some reader of the BLADE give an effective remedy for lice on cattle?—W. T. SMITH, Clinton, Pa. [The most effective lice-killing preparations are made by pouring common spirits of some kind on tobacco leaves, allowing it to stand for a few days, and then bottling for use. With these the body should be well saturated at intervals of three or four days. The repetition is essential to success, to kill the nits that have a waxy material covering that is insoluable in water or alkalies. They hatch out in a week or ten days, and by repeating the wash the young are killed. A useful wash is a strong decoction of tobacco leaves saturated with rock salt.—ED.

BLACK LEG.—Will you, or some of your experienced readers, give through your valuable columns a good preventive and also cure for "black leg" in calves.—W. S. WARNER, Marysville, Mo. [In the work "Contagious Diseases of Domesticated Animals," issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, H. M. Kemp, of Schuyler, Neb., gives the following remedy for black leg in cattle, under which treatment not a single one was lost: "One pound each of saltpeter and common salt, ground and well mixed. One half teacup ful is given in a dose, lasting for three minutes. A second dose is administered if required." Calves should have a reduced quantity given them.—ED.]

BONE, MEAL AND CHARCOAL.—Will some one tell through the BLADE if ground bone and charcoal are put in corn meal and fed to the chickens? If they they will eat too much, or is it hurtful in any way?—READER. [Bone is broken fine, as well as charcoal, are both excellent for fowls. The former is shell producing, while the latter serves to correct the bowels, and prevents diarrhea. It also tends to increase the fattening effects of foods. Fowls may be over-fed with any particular kind of food. So with bone or charcoal. The former should be given two or three times a week, and the latter occasionally. Bones may be nicely prepared by burning them and grinding them in a common coffee mill. If ground bone is put in a small box the fowls will eat what they need of it, but if placed in their food they might be given too much to correspond with other elements of the food given, if put in their food too frequently. A small lump of lime put in their drinking water two or three times a week is a good thing.—ED.]

"THUMPS."—Can any reader of the BLADE FARM give a cure for a disease called "thumps" in hogs? The hog is very short of breath, wheezes and has thumping in the side.—K., Kansas. [We believe the recognized medicine for this disease is digitalis. The fourth of a drachm may be given twice a day for several days. Tincture of aconite is sometimes given. Certain cases of "thumps" are incurable. You should be careful not to over-excite the animals.—ED.]

DISTEMPER.—I have a mare that had the distemper about two years ago. Since then she has had a cough and runs at the nostrils—principally the left. It is a thin, white substance and runs mostly after she drinks. She also at times has a rattling in her nostrils when she breathes—generally when she is warm and cools off too quickly. The mare has a good appetite and does well. What will cure her and how give it? Answer and you will oblige.—C. W., LARIBEE, Tina, Mo. [The membrane of the head of a horse that has been cured of distemper, are never as strong as they were before the attack, and is therefore more subject to colds than previously. The best thing to do will be: In the first place clean your horse carefully. Do not excite him so as to destroy uniform temperature of the body. Put an ounce of salt peter in the water pail night and morning. Give wholesome food, avoiding that too laxative in its nature. Give the following tonic: Sulphate of iron and ginger, each four ounces. Mix with enough common meal to make ten balls, and give one twice a day.—ED.]

LARGE SWELLINGS.—I have a yearling filley that has large swellings on the front part of both hock joints. They are soft but no pus. I first discovered it about two months ago. Can you tell what the trouble is and what will cure, and oblige.—H. AKERS. [You do not say whether or not these swellings are accompanied by pain or tenderness to the touch. It looks as if it might be spavin to reduce which try the egg blister, namely: Take the whites of three eggs, one wineglass of turpentine, and one of proof whisky. Put in a vessel, stir well and heat in a stove for a few hours until it becomes a thick paste, then rub the affected part two or three times a day. If this does not answer report. More vigorous measures may be necessary. See that no flame touches the above formula while heating.—ED.]

SKIN DISEASE.—A little more than a week ago the lower part of one of the hind legs of my horse began to swell, and the horse got very lame, refused to eat hay or corn fodder and merely tested his grain. In about three days the skin broke open about six inches below the knee, and has been discharging pus since. About the time that the first leg broke the other hind leg began to be affected in the same way and broke near the pastern joint. The horse has been fed well and regularly, but has not gained in flesh since I quit working him hard last fall. Her skin seems dry and tight. If you can tell what the matter is, and name a remedy, you will greatly oblige a subscriber.—E. R. HORTON, Popiar, O. [Your horse, from the description you give, has grease heels, a disease that attacks the capillary vessels of the feet and legs, preceded at times by dropsical effusions. Poultices the parts for a couple of days with bran and hops; then bathe with the following, recommended by Prof. DIX: Acetate of lead, one ounce; sulphate of zinc, half an ounce; water, one pint. Mix and apply twice, daily, after cleaning the parts with warm soap and water. The horse should be comfortably clothed. Change diet and feed well. An ounce of saltpeter should be placed daily in his bucket of water. Give internally for four days one of the following balls: Barbadoes aloes, 1 oz.; pulverized gentian root, ½ oz.; pulverized ginger, 2 drms. Mix with molasses, and divide into four balls.—ED.]

VALUABLE MARE.—I have a valuable mare, her hind leg is much swollen, and has been so for the last six months; the hide on her leg is broke, and there is as much as a quart of clear water runs from the leg every 24 hours. Some one of the many readers of the BLADE please tell me what is the matter with her, and also give a recipe for the sure cure of the disease and you will confer a favor upon an old subscriber.—JOHN S. MCKINNEY, Jamestown, Ky. [Your description is not sufficiently full, but we think if you follow directions given M. R. Horton, in this issue, your mare will come out all right.—ED.]

Answers to Inquiries.

ICE HOUSE.—In the BLADE of November 5 I notice an inquiry by Mr. S. G. Guard, of St. Marys, Kan., in regard to an ice-house that will hold ten tons for $200, and he asks about one that was patented. At the time this inquiry was made I was getting material for an ice house, and as it is now finished (there is no patent on it) I thought I would give a description of it for the benefit of the Kansas gentleman and other readers of the BLADE. The building is 12 feet square and 10 feet high, with hip roof of the best pine shingles, with a cupola 2 feet square and 2½ feet high roofed with tin, with a spire about 4 feet high surmounted with a 5 inch ball. The frame is known as a "balloon frame." The foundation is an 8 inch wall 12 inches high of the best of hard brick. Sills 4x6 inches laid flatwise, halved together at corners. After the sills were laid on, several loads of earth were thrown in and pounded hard. The studing are 2x4 inch scantling with 4x4 at corners and same each side of door. Studing are three feet apart, with short girts to nail boards to "toe nailed" between the studing, three girts between sill and plates at top of studding. Plates, two by four inches. It is boarded up with 12-inch stock boards, same as a barn. These boards were dressed on outside, and painted with two coats of white lead. The cracks are battened with 2-inch battens, painted with two coats of Indian red before nailing on. The cornice and the ball at top of spire are also painted with the same red, and the door and the tin roof on the cupola are painted blue. These colors were remnants left after painting my house—the red was used on window blinds and the blue from painting the ceiling of the kitchen, and as there was not enough of any one color, I used it all as above stated, and it has my house decked in the bloody colors of the "star spangled banner" by using paints that would otherwise have been wasted, and situated as it is, in a clump of big trees, during the summer it will look as gay and patriotic as the "emblem of freedom" at a pic-nic. So much for the outside. Inside, a two by four scantling is set close to the brick wall, and opposite each of the studding of the frame, and attached to the same by nailing short pieces of scantling between, resting on rough boards inside, thus making a space of twelve inches between the inner and outer walls. This space is filled with sawdust packed as tight as possible by filling in the sawdust as the boards are nailed on, until reaching a height of nine feet. A space three feet wide is partioned off in the front near the door for a place to pile the sawdust while filling the house with ice. This gives a box nine feet by ten, and nine feet high for the ice, and I am told by neighbors who have houses of the same size that it will hold enough to supply two families with all that would ordinarily be needed by farmers. Now, as to the cost. I did all the work below the roof, except the laying of the brick, myself, and paid the painting a bill. The nails used were all new, and I always keep for all from a stock that I always keep for all purposes, and as in case of the paint, it would be difficult to estimate the cost. But the total amount paid out for the building was $65.99. This includes $6.75 paid for sawdust sufficient to pack the walls and cover the ice when the house is filled. The brick cost $7.50 per 1,000, and the lumber $18 per 1,000, with $3 extra added for the dressing of the boards on the outside. Shingles, $3.50 per 1,000. The floor was made of old bridge plank laid on the ground, and a tile drain previously laid runs under the house. An opening sixteen inches square gives ventilation through the cupola, which has stationary blinds in each of the four sides. All the lumber used is pine, except the spire, which was worked out of an old wagon tongue. In some localities such a house could be built with a very small outlay of money, but all the lumber the farmer in a prairie country gets he has to buy, but I can't imagine an ice-house would cost $200 in Kansas, unless the proprietor wants to run a one-horse brewery. I expect those fellows got awful dry down there some times.—LAMAN WOODWARD.

Osco, Henry county, Ill.

Big Radish.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

I see in the BLADE of December 10 that a Mr. Huber, of Mechanicsville, O., had a radish that was 35 inches in circumference and weighed 23 pounds. Now I can beat that. I raised one that was 25 inches in circumference, 24 inches long and weighed 25 pounds.—A. EAGLEY, North Springfield, Pa.

Caring Meats.

The following is the famous recipe used by Mrs. Henry Clay for curing hams, several hogsheads of which were annually sent to Boston, where, under the name of "Ashland hams," they commanded the highest price, especially among the wealthy Whigs of that city. For every ten hams of moderate size she took three and one-half pounds of fine salt, one pound of saltpeter, and two pounds of brown sugar, and after mixing them thoroughly together, rubbed the hams therewith on either side. They were then packed in a tight box and placed in a cool outhouse for about three weeks, when the hams were taken out and put in a pickling-tub or hogshead and covered with brine strong enough to swim an egg. After remaining in the pickle for about three weeks, they were taken out, rubbed with fresh salt, and hung up in a well ventilated house for a few days to dry, after which they were transferred to the smoke-house, where they were hung up and smoked with green hickory or walnut wood until they had acquired the color of bright mahogany, when each ham was sewed up in canvas, the coverings whitewashed, and hung up to dry, after which they were whitewashed again and packed away in hogsheads with hickory ashes until wanted either for home use or sending to Boston.

Canada Thistles.

By a recent law in Indiana, any person who knowingly permits Canada thistles to grow and mature upon his land, or land under his charge, is liable to a fine of not less than $5 or more than $20, and double the amount for a second offense. Subject to this same fines are supervisors of highways of the state who allow these thistles to grow on any road in their districts; or road-masters of railway lines, through whose negligence these thistles grow about stations or along the right of way under their supervision.

Young Stock.

To young stock growing fast, feed good, strengthening food, which will produce muscle and help in forming a large, strong frame. While the chicks are still growing they should be fed often and with a variety of food. They are often fed on fattening food to keep them in good order, but this is not what they want, and such treatment will often produce ill-formed, weak-limbed fowls.

Apple Gathering.

The *Rural New Yorker* on apple gathering: In picking and handling their delicate structure should never be forgotten; no matter how small the bruise may be, every one detracts from their keeping qualities. No apple intended for anything but cidering, making or hog-feeding should ever be shaken or shaken from the trees, or, when picked, thrown about or dropped into barrels, but in every operation every apple intended for market or home use should be handled as carefully as if an egg."

News of the Week.

ROBERT TOOMBS DEAD.

ROBERT TOOMBS—FROM A RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.

WASHINGTON, Ga., Dec. 15.—Gen. Robert Toombs died here this evening at 6 o'clock.

Gen. Toombs's funeral will take place at Washington, Ga., Thursday morning, at 11 o'clock.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—A special from Washington, Ga., gives the following account of the last hours of the illness of Robert Toombs: He was stricken with paralysis about three months ago, and had since been confined to his room, during which time his mind had been more or less clouded. At times he would, in his thoughts, again go through the stormy debates of his past life. At other times, when he did not at all comprehend his immediate surroundings, his mind would be perfectly clear as to events of his past life. Almost every day up to last Wednesday, he would sit up in his easy chair, but on Thursday he began to grow worse. Paralysis was more perceptible than ever before. The left side of his face was very much drawn and distorted. He was unconscious from last Friday. During his entire illness he seemed to be free from pain. He died as peacefully as a little child falls to sleep. His deathbed was surrounded by his four grandchildren, all grown, an only brother, to whom he was very devotedly attached, and other relatives. These four grandchildren constituted his entire family, being the children of his daughter, Mrs. Dubose, who died nearly 20 years ago. His home people were very much attached to him, and the town is in deep sorrow. The property he leaves is variously estimated at from $300,000 to $500,000.

In a recent interview, one of the most noted sayings attributed to Gen. Toombs was repudiated by him in the following language:

"I never said that I would live to call the roll of my slaves at the foot of Bunker Hill monument. That was a fancy lie, started by Jack Hale, of New Hampshire."

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

Robert Toombs was born at Washington, Ga., where he died. His father died when he was yet a young boy, leaving him in good circumstances. His collegiate training, began at the university of Georgia, was completed at Union college, Schenectady, N. Y., where he was graduated in 1828. When 19 years old he attended a law course at the university of Virginia, and in 1830 was admitted to the bar by a special act of his native state, about a year before he attained his majority. He opened an office in his native county. In 1837 he took part as a captain in a campaign against the Creek Indians, headed by Gen. Scott and conducted in Alabama, in which he served with distinction.

Soon after his return home he was elected to the Georgia legislature, in which he continued from 1837 to 1840. He was re-elected and took an active part in its proceedings during 1842 and 1843. The next year after this he was elected to the United States Congress. He supported Harrison for the Presidency in 1840, and Henry Clay in 1844. Mr. Toombs was a member of the House of Representatives at Washington from his first election to 1853, when he took his seat in the United States Senate. In 1859 he was re-elected to this body, and retired when Georgia seceded from the Union.

His name was among the leaders of the Secessionists. After having acted as a delegate to the Confederate Congress held at Montgomery, he became secretary of state in the cabinet of Jefferson Davis, but soon retired from this position to assume a military command, with the rank of brigadier general. When Gen. Sherman invaded Georgia, Toombs, who had resigned his position in the Confederate army, served as general in the state militia. The failure of the Southern cause led to his leaving the country, to which he did not return until 1867, having lived meanwhile in Cuba, France and England. Upon reaching home he resumed the practice of the law, by which he amassed large wealth. He never asked for the removal of his disabilities, and gloried in being an unpardoned unrepentant "rebel." The office held by him since the war was as member of the Georgia constitutional convention. As the state declined to pay the expenses of the convention beyond the amount appropriated, Gen. Toombs advanced the sum needed, and trusted to the next legislature to reimburse him.

So prominent and energetic was Toombs in the secession cause that there was talk at the time Jefferson Davis was elected President of the Confederacy of putting him in the place, but Davis had the most votes, and was accordingly elected. The relations of the two men were far from being friendly. When Davis wrote his book about the war he wanted Toombs's photograph to put in it, and wrote him to this effect. Toombs refused to send it, afterwards said he did not want his picture to go down to posterity in such company. Toombs said: "Davis and I never had any quarrel. I have nothing against him except his follies. It would have been a great deal better for him and the South if his history had never been written, and the bulk of the people soon pity Davis rather than admire him. His chief trouble was and is that he had an exalted idea of his own importance. He has some ability, but no nerve, and he has not the slightest capacity for managing men." Toombs's opinion of Gen. Lee was not at all a flattering one. While in the army he was a brave soldier, but was almost constantly in conflict with his superior officers. He was eminent as a lawyer and for superior attainments in general culture. Few men have entailed him as a conversationalist. His marked peculiarities of disposition, notably his great pride and the strength of his convictions, were associated with a vast fund of information, a rich command of language, and an impressive eloquence. Both in private and public life Robert Toombs has been a striking and commanding figure.

During the last few years of his life Mr. Toombs has been nearly blind and sadly alone in the world, his wife and children being dead. A short time ago he was received into the membership of the Methodist Episcopal church South, the denomination for which he seems to have entertained a preference for many years before. He has had, happily, more than a sufficiency of money to procure him every comfort, his estate being worth at least a quarter of a million dollars.

WASHINGTON, Ga., Dec. 17.—The funeral of Gen. Robert Toombs took place here today, in the M. E. church. The whole town is in mourning. The church was appropriately draped. The casket was bronze, with wrought leaves of beautiful workmanship ornamenting it. Gov. McDaniel and many prominent citizens of the state were present. Selections from the scriptures were read by Rev. W. H. Lagrade, pastor of the church; and prayers were offered by Rev. S. S. Miller and Rev. J. D. Brown. The funeral discourse was by Rev. W. H. Lagrade and Bishop Beckwith.

Colored People Leaving South Carolina.

NASHVILLE, Dec. 16.—One hundred colored men, women and children, passed through the city to-day en route from South Carolina to Arkansas, where they intend to settle. They stated that the poor crops and high rents caused them to change their location, and that hundreds of others are making preparations to leave next spring for points in the western and southwestern states. They have made no arrangements for employment, and evidently believe that work may be had for the asking. Some of the party thought their destination was Kansas, not knowing the differences between the states.

The Hendricks Estate.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 17.—Mrs. Eliza C. Hendricks has filed her bond as executrix of the will of Thomas A. Hendricks, in the sum of $17,000, with W. C. Thompson, Stephen W. Morgan and Thomas L. Sullivan, as sureties. Her affidavit states that to the best of her knowledge and belief she is of the opinion that the personal estate of Mr. Hendricks is worth about $8,500. Mr. Hendricks was assessed $6,500 on real estate.

Business Failures.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The business failures occurring throughout the country during the last week, as reported to R. G. Dun & Co., number for the United States 233, and for Canada 22, as against 247 last week and 239 the week previous. The western and southwestern states furnished more than one-half of the total number.

A GENUINE SENSATION.

A Member of a Secret Society Ordered to Kill the Prince of Wales.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—London has had a genuine sensation to-day. Early this morning a young man and his wife, John and Sarah Magee, were arrested at Kennington on the charge of having attempted to procure money from the Prince of Wales, by writing threatening letters. They were taken into court, formal charges preferred against them, and they were remanded for examination. It appears that the prisoners had written two letters, but as they were not read in court, it is impossible to give their exact language or state, except in general terms, what they contained. It is known, however, that the letters demanded £750, and intimated in unmistakable terms that unless this amount was forthcoming the Prince's life would be in jeopardy. The Prince, it is said, paid only passing attention to the first letter which the Magees sent, but when the second came, reiterating the demand and threats, His Royal Highness turned the letter over to the police and left them to do whatever they thought best. The police at once quietly set about planning the capture of the blackmailers. They sent a message as though coming from the Prince of Wales to the address given in the letters directing the author or authors of the letter to appear at a specified time and place. The assurance was given that somebody would meet them at the appointed hour, prepared to hand over a package containing the money they had demanded. The Magees at once fell into the trap which had been set for them. They appeared at the spot designated this morning and were presented with a package of farthings. As they started to leave with their supposed treasure, the police threw off their disguise and arrested them.

The woman thereupon made a voluntary confession of the whole plot. At any rate the police say the confession was voluntary. The woman, however, has since declared that she was forced by the police against her will to confess something.

A representative of the Associated Press called on an equerry of the Prince of Wales this afternoon to learn any facts obtainable about the affair. The equerry knew something about the contents of the letters. They, he declared, represented that Magee was a representative of a secret society and that he had been ordered to kill the prince, but Magee did not wish to obey this mandate. There was no help for it, however, unless he could get money enough to go to America. He wanted £250. If this money was furnished him he would at once bid a lasting good-bye to secret societies and conspiracies and start across the Atlantic. Nothing further can be learned to-night.

PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION.

Randall's Plan—Presidential Electors to Hold Over Four Years.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—A Washington special says: Mr. Randall has prepared a bill for introduction in the House, entitled "A bill in relation to the manner of filling vacancies in the offices of President and Vice-President." It provides, first, that the Presidential electors shall hold their offices for the term of four years. Second, that whenever in the case of removal, death or resignation of the President, the Vice-President shall have become President of the United States, the electors shall be convened at the same time and elect another Vice-President. In the same manner in the case of removal, resignation, death or disability of the President and Vice-President the electors shall elect another President and Vice-President.

It is also provided that in the event of the death, removal, or disability both of the President and Vice President, and in case no Vice President shall have been elected, then the secretary of state shall act as President until an election can be had and consummated, and if there be no secretary of state then the office is to revert to the secretary of the treasury, the secretary of war, the attorney general, the secretary of the navy, the secretary of the interior and the postmaster general, in the order named, who shall act as President until an election can be had as provided in the bill, provided that no one of these officers shall be competent to act as President who would not be eligible to the Presidency of the United States, as provided by the constitution.

PROHIBITION TRIUMPH.

The Atlanta Case Decided Against the Liquor Men on Every Point.

ATLANTA, Dec. 17.—This morning, in the United States court, Judge McCoy, in the contested election case growing out of the recent prohibition election in this county, refused to issue an injunction restraining the Ordinary from announcing the result of the election, and decided the case against the liquor men on every point. There is in the bill adopted a provision that Georgia wines may be sold as wines from other states. That portion of the bill Judge McCoy decides was unconstitutional, and no wines could be sold.

Mormon Tricks to Entrap Federal Officials.

SALT LAKE, Dec. 18.—The *Tribune* says, this morning, concerning the remarks in Eastern and Mormon papers respecting the federal officials who have been disgraced by Mormon arts to entrap them into lewdness: "One man has been arrested charged with lewd conduct who was appointed as assistant district attorney to attend one term of the court. Another man has been arrested who was deputy under Marshal Ireland. They are neither federal officers in the sense usually intended. Neither have been conspicuous in opposing Mormon lawlessness and assisting. Of the other citizens arrested, none have ever been anti-Mormon in the sense which the *Herald* and *News* wish to convey to the country as men who have assumed a virtue they had not. The federal officers and citizens for whom the conspiracy was organized in the hope of catching have never been disturbed, not one of them, though, in addition to furnishing houses for public women and bribing them to do the work which only the lowest of their class could be employed to do, special and large bribes were offered if certain men could be caught. The attempt, although produced in many forms and under all sorts of disguises, failed in every case."

Toledo's Manual Training School in Boston.

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—John S. Clark, of the Prang Publishing company, gave a dinner last evening at the Hotel Vendome in honor of Dr. C. M. Woodward, professor of mathematics and mechanics of Washington University, and director of the St. Louis Manual Training school. A large number of gentlemen, prominent in educational circles, were present. Dr. Woodward spoke at some length. He said his educational creed could be stated in six words—put the whole boy at school.

That the present system of instruction is defective but one side of the boy. He would supplement the present system with manual instruction in order that the whole boy might be trained. He recommended the methods adopted in the manual training school of St. Louis, Chicago and Toledo. The manual training school of the latter city was of especial interest in view of the fact that it had been incorporated with the public school system of the city, and its course of instruction extended to girls. He advocated the adoption of a like course of manual training for the high schools of the country.

The Silver Question.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Between 60 and 70 gentlemen, including Hon. Edwards Pierrepont and A. J. Warner met at the Metropolitan Hotel to-night under the auspices of the Anti-Monopoly League to discuss the silver question. After remarks by several of those present, resolutions were adopted petitioning Congress to resume the free coinage of the standard silver dollar of 412½ grains, asserting that the United States cannot become a monometallic country because the constitution prohibits making anything but gold and silver legal tender in payment of debts; asserting the equal stability of silver with gold in value and protesting against measuring silver by gold.

The Official Vote of Ohio.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 16.—The secretary of state received by express this morning the abstract of votes cast at the last election in Hamilton county. The state canvassing board completed the canvass on the state ticket this afternoon and the official pluralities are as follows: Governor, Foraker, 350,381; Hoadly, 341,830; Leonard, (P) 28,681; Northrop, (G) 2,091; Foraker's plurality, 17,451. Lieutenant Governor, Kennedy, 360,720; Warwick, 341,807; Frost (P) 27,043; Cooley, (G) 2,057; Kennedy's plurality, 18,921. Attorney General, Kohler, 360,368; Lawrence, 341,762; Clevenger, (P) 26,640; Baker, (G) 2,074; Kohler's plurality, 19,047. Treasurer of State, Brown, 361,463; Brady, 340,939; Danver, (P) 26,578; Harrison, (G) 2,077. Board of Public Works, Jones, 361,508; Weible, 341,244; Neville, (P) 26,545; Ogden, (G) 2,057.

The "Wets" Die Hard.

ATLANTA, GA., Dec. 18.—Judge Marshall J. Clark, of the Fulton county Superior court, has granted a temporary injunction restraining Ordinary Calhoun from announcing the result of the prohibition election. He will hear the argument for permanent injunction next Monday.

A RAID ON THE TREASURY.

Claim Agents Imagine They Have Discovered a Good Thing in a Law Passed in 1836.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Evidence of a contemplated raid on the treasury to the tune of $50,000,000 or more has come to light through the circulars of certain claim agents in this city, addressed to the widows of soldiers who were killed in battle or died of wounds received during the late war. These circulars inform the recipient that the agents have reason to believe that there is due her from the government on account of her deceased husband a sum of money, not in the nature of a pension, amounting to between $400 and $500, and an offer is made to prosecute the claim before the departments and the courts for a contingent fee of 25 per cent. References to the law or other authority under which the money alleged to be due has accrued is studiously avoided in these circulars, and many anxious inquiries are being made by persons who have received them as to whether there is anything in the scheme or not. As the matter is of considerable public interest the following statement is furnished:

A careful examination of the United States statutes proves conclusively that there is only one law upon which the claims in question can be based, and that is the act of March 19, 1836, entitled "An act to provide for the payment of volunteer and militia corps in the service of the United States" (5 Stat., 7). This act took the place of the act of January 2, 1794 (1 Stat., 401), to regulate the pay of militia when called into actual service, and has never been repealed. Sec. 5 reads as follows:

That when any officer, non-commissioned officer, artificer, or private of said militia or volunteer corps who shall die in the service of the United States, or returning to his place of residence after being mustered out of service, or at any time in consequence of wounds received in service, and shall leave a widow, or, if no widow, a child or children under 16 years of age, such widow, or if no widow, such child or children, shall be entitled to receive one-half the monthly pay to which the deceased was entitled at the time of his death for and during the term of five years; and in case of the death or intermarriage of such widow before the expiration of five years the half-pay for the remainder of the time shall go to the child or children of said deceased: *provided always*, that the secretary of war shall adopt such forms of evidence, in applications under this act, as the President of the United States may prescribe.

This section is substantially identical with Sec. 1,657, of the revised statutes, the only material difference being that in the latter the words "Secretary of the Interior" are substituted for "Secretary of War." This change is supposed to have been made by the compilers of the revised statutes for the reason that the Interior department, which was not organized until thirteen years after the passage of the act of 1836, has charge of all matters pertaining to pensions, to which the following of five years' half pay is somewhat analogous.

There are conflicting opinions as to whether the act of 1836 is still in force. Eminent counsel are said to entertain no doubt that it is, while certain government officials incline to the opinion that it has been impliedly repealed by the liberal pension laws of 1861 and subsequent years. As the question will no doubt have to be determined by the courts, and ever, it is unnecessary to consider it now further than to say that the compilers of the revised statutes were evidently convinced that the law had not been repealed either by implication or otherwise, and that said law, having been incorporated in the revised statutes, is part of the statutes of the United States general and permanent in their nature, in force December 1, 1873, as declared by the act of June 22, 1874.

The question of the probable cost of this new raid on the treasury is not only interesting to the general reader, but is highly important to every taxpayer in the United States. In their circular the claim agents emphasize the statement that unless the soldier was killed in battle or died of wounds the recipient need not execute the accompanying power of attorney authorizing them to prosecute the claim, but the law is susceptible of a much more liberal interpretation, and if declared to be operative will undoubtedly be worked for all it is worth. It includes not only those who died "at any time in consequence of wounds received in service," but also every officer and soldier of volunteers and militia who died "in the service of the United States or returning to his place of residence after being mustered out." The number of soldiers who died while en route to their homes after muster-out is not known, but the records of the war department show that 9,324 officers and 344,374 enlisted men died in service, as follows:

	Officers.	Enlisted men.
Killed in action	4,057	61,941
Died of wounds received in action	2,151	59,300
Died of disease	2,688	218,805
Accidental deaths (drowning excepted)	141	3,829
Drowned	102	4,749
Murdered	26	468
Killed after the war	14	89
Committed suicide	24	340
Executed by United States Military authorities		261
Deserted to the enemy	4	69
Died of sunstroke	5	301
Died from other known causes	61	1,910
Died from causes not stated	28	11,987
Totals	9,324	344,374

The pay proper of officers ranged from $45 to $220 per month for commissioned officers, and from $13 to $36 per month for enlisted men. Assuming that it would average $60 per month for officers and $16 per month for enlisted men, and that less than one-third of the volunteer force—say 3,000 officers and 100,000 men—were married, we have the following result:

Three thousand officers at one-half of $60 per month for five year	$ 7,400,000
One hundred thousand men at one-half of $16 per month for five years	48,000,000
Total	$55,400,000

The contingent fees on this amount at the rate of 25 per cent. would reach the very respectable figure of $13,350,000, which is enough to turn the heads of all the claim agents in the United States.

BREWING IN KANSAS.

Beer for Scientific Purposes Fine Points of Law Involved.

TOPEKA, Dec. 17.—Before Judge Brewer came the noted Douglas county case, involving the question at issue in the matter of John Walruff, of Lawrence, and his brewing business. The case is this: Walruff applied to the Probate judge of Douglas county for permission to manufacture and sell beer for medical, mechanical and scientific purposes. This permission was refused. Walruff gave notice that he would continue his business, as he had complied with the law and was entitled to such permission. The county attorney complained of Walruff on the ground of a nuisance, and the District court, Judge Benson, granted a temporary injunction enjoining Walruff from continuing his business. Walruff filed a petition of removal to the United States court, alleging that his rights as granted by the constitution of the United States had been violated, particular stress being laid on the point that private property had been taken for public use without due process of law. The state moved to remand the case to the court from whence it came, and the debate to-day was on this motion.

Judge Brewer thinks there is a federal question introduced, and he will keep the case in his court; if not, he will refuse to take it. Coupled with the Walruff case will be five cases from Atchison, which are in many respects the same in principle.

Oklahoma Lands—What the Indians Want.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 18.—Correta Micco, second chief, and L. C. Perryman, brother of Chief Perryman, delegates of the Creek Indians to Washington, arrived in this city yesterday, enroute to the national capital. To a reporter Mr. Perryman stated that he and Delegate Micco would remain in Washington during the session of the present Congress, for the purpose of looking after the interests of the Creeks. "The most important question affecting the Creeks," said he, "is the sale of the Oklahoma lands to the United States government. Among the Creeks and Seminoles the sentiment is about half and half in favor of a compromise settlement with the general government; but the Cherokees, who are jointly interested in the lands with the Creeks and Seminoles, are unquestionably opposed to the settlement of Oklahoma by whites. I think that if the government made the Creeks and Seminoles a square cut offer for the lands, that it would be accepted."

Virginia's New Senator.

RICHMOND, Dec. 17.—The two houses of the general assembly met in joint convention, and the vote for United States Senator was announced. The president of the senate declared that John W. Daniel was elected senator to represent Virginia in the United States Senate for six years, beginning March 4, 1887.

The State of South Dakota.

HURON, Dec. 17.—In the joint session of the state legislature, yesterday, [illegible] election was

DESPERATE DYNAMITERS.

A Plot to Assassinate Twenty Leading Citizens of San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16.—A most sensational and startling plot for wholesale assassination of the most prominent men in this city came to light here late last night. Some time ago the police obtained information of the existence of an organization called "The Socialistic Revolutionary Association," which it was asserted was composed of ultra socialistic members. A close watch was kept on their movements, and the police finally succeeded in obtaining the minutes of one of their meetings, held November 23. From those facts it was discovered that it was the intention of the association to put out of the way about twenty men, including W. T. Coleman, Congressman W. W. Morrow, Gen. W. H. L. Barnes, Mayor Bartlett, United States Judge Lorenzo Sawyer, Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker, Gov. Stoneman, the principal police officials, and several others. These names were placed on the "prospective list," and placed in the hands of the executive committee to carry out the orders of the association. The committee were to devise the best mode of accomplishing the ends of the base plot, and were thus engaged when their work was brought to a sudden termination last night by the discovery of the association's headquarters at No. 930 Montgomery avenue, by the police, and the arrest of four men found therein, named Julius C. Kooser, Henry Weiseman, Charles Mittelstadt and Oscar Eggers. In the room were also found a complete laboratory for the manufacture of infernal machines. The men were taken to the city prison, when they boldly asserted they were dynamiters and proposed to get rid of the citizens named and then raze Chinatown. The prisoners also belong to the German branch of the Anti-Cooly League. No charge has yet been entered against the prisoners. Further developments are expected.

LATER.—The leader of the band of dynamiters arrested last night is Henry Weseman. He is a Bavarian by birth, and a theoretical chemist by profession. He was induced to join Coroner O'Donnell's Anti Coolie league, and finally became president of the German Anti-Coolie league.

"My intention," he said, "was merely to aid in enforcing what O'Donnell told us was the law against the Chinese. He told us that the state constitution prohibited the Chin

zanship an error, so far as he (Mr. Logan) was concerned. It was the senator from Missouri who had insinuated that persons might desire to get Dakota in as a state for the purpose of getting electoral votes.

"I do not say that I am an aesthetic statesman," replied Vest. "I am a politician, I suppose. I fight for my party. I am not a mugwump. [Laughter.] I shall be satisfied by what my party, which I believe to to sound on constitutional questions, shall say of me. Other things being equal, I stand by my friends; I never rose to such an aesthetic pedestal that I could not distinguish a friend from a foe. The senator from Illinois (Logan) himself has never been accused of that; nor have I."

After further debate, the matter, at 2 o'clock, went over till to-morrow. The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the joint rules.

After taking up the joint rules, after a short debate, resulting in some amendments of details, the rules were agreed to.

Beck offered the following resolution, which he requested might be allowed to lie over for the present:

"WHEREAS, The laws of the United States require that all duties on imported goods shall be paid in coin, and whereas, it is provided by section 4,954 of the revised statutes that the coin paid for duties on imported goods shall be set apart as a special fund, and shall be applied as follows: first, to the payment in coin of the interest on bonds and notes of the United States; second, to the purchase or payment of one per centum of the entire debt of the United States, to be made within each fiscal year, which is to be set apart as a sinking fund, and the interest of which shall in like manner be applied to the purchase or payment of the public debt as the secretary of the treasury shall from time to time direct; third, that the residue to be paid into the treasury:

Resolved, That the committee on finance be instructed to inquire whether the laws above stated now are, or have heretofore been obeyed, and if they have not to report by bill or otherwise such measures as will secure their enforcement."

The Senate adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.—Most of the day was spent in consideration of the report of the committee on rules. Various bills were offered in amendment, which was adopted, and which leaves clause 3 of the 21st rule reading as follows:

"No appropriation shall be reported in any general appropriation bill or be in order as an amendment thereto for any expenditure not previously authorized by law, unless in continuation of appropriations for such public works as are already in progress, nor shall any provision changing the existing law be in order in any general appropriation bill or in any amendment thereto."

The remainder of the report was agreed to without objection, and then the report was adopted in toto. So the rules of the 48th Congress as amended by the report of the committee on rules were re-enacted as the rules of the 49th Congress.

Morrison then called up the resolution for a holiday recess, after having amended it so that the recess shall begin on Monday next and end on January 5th. The resolution was adopted.

The Senate bill granting a pension to the widow of Gen. Grant was taken up and passed, Price (Wis.) alone voting in the negative. The House then adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.

SENATE.—The Senate passed the House concurrent resolution providing for adjournment until Tuesday, January 5, 1886.

Vest offered the following preamble and resolution, and moved their reference to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

"WHEREAS, The correspondence between the government of the United States and Austria-Hungary, which has been transmitted to the Senate by the President, shows that the Hon. Anthony M. Keiley, of Virginia, was on April 29, 1885, appointed minister to Austro-Hungary; that on May 9, 1885, United States Minister Keiley of Virginia was officially notified by the government of Austro-Hungary that the position of a foreign envoy wedded to a Jewess by civil marriage would be untenable, and even impossible in Vienna, and on August 4 the government of Austro-Hungary declared its determination not to receive Mr. Keiley as minister from the United States,

Resolved, That the position assumed by the government and the principles affirmed in said correspondence by the secretary of state meet with our unqualified approbation. The constitution of the United States provides that 'no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust within the United States,' and while it is the duty of this government to maintain friendly relations with Austria-Hungary and all other governments, the people of the United States deny the right of any foreign government to assert against any citizen of this country disqualification for office by reason of his religious belief or that of his family."

Vest said: The government of the United States would have recognized the right of the Austrian government to object to Mr. Keiley on personal grounds, if he had been personally objectionable to that government, but when the Austrian government puts its objection on the ground that Mr. Keiley's wife entertained certain religious opinions, the government was bound by the provisions of its constitution and the traditions and opinions of its people to respectfully refuse to consider the justice of such an objection. The principle of religious liberty was too thoroughly interwoven with our form of government, and too highly prized by the people of the United States, to permit them to recognize the justice of such an objection on the part of anybody.

Vest expressed his pleasure that Sec. Bayard had so properly and energetically expressed the sense of the American people on the subject. He then moved a reference of his resolution to the committee on foreign relations.

Plumb thought no question of religious liberty was involved. The point, in his opinion, was purely a social one. These diplomatic officials had no duties to perform, except social duties. He thought the committee would recommend that the whole diplomatic arrangement be abolished.

The resolution was referred to the committee on foreign relations.

Harrison offered the following preamble and resolution, for which he asked immediate consideration:

"WHEREAS, It is stated in substance in the last annual report of the commissioner of pensions that under the administration of his predecessors or some of them in that office other tests than those of law were applied to applications for pensions, and that applicants were required to show, in addition to service in the field, submission to and support of a party before pensions were granted; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the committee on Expenditure of Public Money are hereby directed to inquire into such statements and to report the facts to the Senate, and that said committee are empowered to send for persons and papers, and to employ a stenographer."

On the objection of Cockrell, the resolution went over under the rule.

Hoar offered a resolution, which was agreed to without debate, authorizing the committee on Finance to investigate the New York custom house, especially as to undervaluations and reappraisements.

Beck called up the resolution heretofore offered by him, directing the committee on Finance to inquire whether the officials of the United States were complied with the laws requiring that the coin paid for duties on imported goods, should be set apart as a special fund, and applied to the payment of the interest on United States bonds, etc.

Merrill moved a reference of the resolution to the committee on Finance. It was so referred.

Beck's sweeping resolution relating to Dakota was referred to the committee on Territories. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The regular order being demanded, the Speaker proceeded to call the states for bills and resolutions for reference. Among the bills introduced and referred were the following:

By Herbert (Ala.)—To provide a mode for vacating patents for lands relating to the compensation of United States attorneys, marshals and commissioners.

By Burns (Mo.)—Authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Missouri river at St. Joseph, Mo.; also a number of resolutions of the legislature of Missouri, among them one protesting against the suspension of the coinage of the silver dollar.

By Wheeler (Ala.)—To create a bureau of military statistics; also to establish courts of appeals; also to pension survivors of the Mexican war; also to grant lands to Alabama & Atlantic railroad company; also for the relief of Fitz John Porter; also to amend the civil service act; it amends the act by the addition of sections calculated to equalize the appointments in the civil service among the several states, and provides that an appointing officer may call upon a certain person for examination, and upon his being found capable, may appoint him to office.)

By Reed—Declaring forfeited certain lands granted to aid in the construction of the Northern Pacific railroad company; also, to declare forfeited certain lands granted to aid in the construction of the Southern Pacific railway company.

By Watt (Conn.)—To suspend the coinage of standard silver dollars.

By Springer (Ills.)—Enabling officers of the army who were promoted for gallantry during the war to be retired with the full rank of the grade to which they were so promoted; also proposing a constitutional amendment in regard to the election of President and Vice President and members of Congress; also proposing a constitutional amendment prohibiting special legislation; also a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement of all balances due to the United States, as shown by the books of the treasury on June 30, 1885.

By Lawler (Ill.)—Appropriating $10,000

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

For Gen. Lawton.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Senate bill relieving the political disabilities of A. R. Lawton, of Georgia, passed the House this morning.

About Dakota.

A resolution was offered in the Senate by Butler, directing the committee on territories to inquire and report by what authority a so-called legislature has been organized in the territory of Dakota, and whether such organization was not calculated to bring about a conflict of authority prejudicial to good order in that territory. He asked immediate consideration of the resolution. Ingalls objected, and, under the rule, the resolution lies over one day.

A Congressman's Troubles.

One of the recently elected Indiana congressmen, with a tundle of freshly opened letters in his hand, remarked: "If there is anything in the world that my people don't write to congressmen about, I don't know what it is. Now look here, (selecting a letter from the package) this is a letter from a woman of my district, She writes: 'Dear sir—My husband left me seven years ago, and I have not heard from him since. Will you please go to the census office, get his present address, and send it to me?' Here is another letter from a citizen of my district who requests me to write to the American minister at Rome and get him an Italian queen bee. If they write for a place and don't get it they threaten to defeat me for re-election. If I had known a year ago what I do now, no earthly temptation would have induced me to run for Congress."

New Pension-Office Rule.

Commissioner of Pensions Black announces that hereafter no application for a pension is to be briefed up, not over two letters are to be written in connection with any case except in answer to a call of a witness shall not be inquired into through postmasters. Heretofore it has been the custom to have all the testimony of each case digested by competent clerks in brief, and the credibility of the various applicants looked up and reported on by postmasters living in the same towns.

Against the Silver Dollar.

Western members are excited to learn that Carlisle has decided upon the membership of the committee on coinage, weights and measures, and every member is against the silver dollar. Bland will not be chairman again, but the committee is made up to please the President.

Commissioner Sparks.

Western senators are receiving letters in great numbers urging them to oppose the confirmation of Land Commissioner Sparks, because of his recent rulings. Mr. Sparks was confirmed by the Senate as commissioner of the general land office on March 25.

Browne's Pension Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The bill introduced in the House by Mr. Browne (Ind.) granting pensions to survivors of the Mexican war, entitles all persons to pensions who actually served fourteen days with the army or navy of the United States in Mexico, who have reached the age of 60 years, or who are suffering from disability, provided that such disability was not incurred in the rebellion against the United States. It also grants a pension to any person who served in the military or naval service for the period of three months during the rebellion, and who is or shall become disabled from any cause not the result of his own gross carel ssness, or vicious or intemperate habits. It also increases the pension of widows and minor children from $8 to $12 per month.

Want the Medals.

Rep. Lovering presented to a petition in the House by Col. David P. Huzzey, 3d Massachusetts cavalry, and 60 other survivors of the storming column known as the "Forlorn Hope," organized for assault upon Fort Hudson, La., June 15, 1863, praying Congress to grant them medals, as promised in the order of Gen. Banks.

Liquor in the Senate.

The sale of liquor continues uninterruptedly in the senate wing of the capitol, notwithstanding the ridiculous debate on the subject a few days ago. Senators also visit certain committee rooms in squads as usual.

Presidential Succession Bill.

Mr. Reed, of Maine, the leader of the minority in the House, said that the Republicans would insist on the succession bill being very materially amended before passage. As the bill now stands the Secretary of State or another Cabinet officer succeeding to the Presidency may serve out the unexpired term. Mr. Reed says it must be amended so that the successor shall be elected within 60 days after the office becomes vacant. Mr. Reed thinks there will be a long and very lively debate on the bill when reported to the House in January. Of the bill in its present shape Mr. Reed said: "It is an unfair bill and has no sense."

Silver Dollars.

The issue of standard silver dollars during the week ended December 19 was 262,211. The issue during the corresponding period of last year was $451,995.

Grant's Letters to Fitz John Porter.

The letters of Gen. Grant to Fitz John Porter were published yesterday. They are over a hundred in number, and show the deep interest of the dead hero in Gen. Porter's efforts to have his disgrace removed, and in his thorough belief in the latter's honesty and loyalty.

December 27, 1882, and February 21, 1883, Gen. Grant wrote to Gen. Porter concerning the bills then before Congress providing for the retirement of both, saying: "I care nothing about mine whatever. In yours I feel a much deeper interest, and am ready to say now that if yours can be advanced by laying mine on the table or withdrawing it, I am ready to ask it. Of course I should esteem it a great compliment if Congress, with great unanimity, should pass the bill and it should be received with favor by the public. Otherwise I would not accept it. But even if I were anxious for the passage of the bill relating me, I would not have it at the expense of one so deeply wronged as I now know you have been."

November 23, 1883, Grant wrote a long letter to Porter summarizing his reasons for changing his mind in the matter of Porter's guilt, which he concluded as follows: "Your restoration to the army, simply, I would regard as a very inadequate and unjust punishment. While many men—one at least—have been restored to the army because of their gallantry and wounds, after conviction and sentence, and, where there is no doubt of their guilt, are given all their pay for the years they were out of the service, I can see no reason for your having less."

The series concludes with a letter from Grant to Porter, dated July 4, 1884, as follows: "You can scarcely conceive the pain it causes me to read the veto of your bill by the President yesterday. I was not prepared for it. His message is the merest sophistry. It is no doubt a great disappointment to you and your family, but I believe it will result ultimately in doing you further justice. Your were dismissed unjustly, and you are entitled to restoration. This would make you a major-general from the date of dismissal to the time of restoration. I want to see this final decision in your case. Be of good cheer, and pray that justice may be done you and yours."

Postal Telegraph.

Sen. Cullom's bill proposes the purchase of lines when this course may be deemed advisable, under certain limitations as to the price to be paid. It creates a provision of the act of 1866, to aid in the construction of telegraph lines, as follows: "The United States may at any time after the expiration of five years from the date of the passage of this act; for postage, military or other purpose, purchase all the telegraph lines, property and effects of any or all of said companies, at an appraised value to be ascertained by five competent disinterested persons, two of whom shall be selected by the postmaster general of the United States, two by the company interested, and one by the four so previously selected." The bill then provides that the secretary of state, the secretary of war and the postmaster general shall constitute a board, to be known as the postal telegraph commission, which is authorized and directed to purchase and acquire for the United States any existing lines under the provisions of the act of 1866, and subject to the approval of the President. It is expressly provided that no lines shall be purchased unless it has been shown to the satisfaction of the commission that such line has earned enough during the twelve months prior to the passage of the act to meet the necessary expenses of its maintenance, reconstruction and operation. Before any line is purchased the commission is directed to ascertain its actual value, which is to be computed on the basis of $1,000 for every $50 of annual earnings, and it is provided that no line shall be purchased at a higher valuation than that ascertained upon the basis thus prescribed.

To pay for any lines that may be acquired, it is proposed that 30-year 3 per cent. bonds shall be issued, which shall not be disposed of at less than par. The remaining provisions of the bill, in relation to the extension and operation of lines that may be acquired, are similar to those contained in Sen. Edmunds' bill.

Will Travel in Style.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company has tendered a train of parlor coaches to the senators, representatives and newspaper correspondents desiring to visit the New Orleans exposition during the holiday recess. The train will leave here at 10 o'clock on Christmas night.

Broken-Hearted.

A telegram received here says that Capt. Johnson, of Indianapolis, who killed a man in Tennessee some years ago for seducing his wife, and who was recently tried for murder at Greenville, Tenn., and defended by Sen. Voorhees and acquitted, died at Marietta, Tenn. The dispatch says that the cause of Capt. Johnson's death was solely because he was a broken-hearted man.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The Balkan War.

COLD WEATHER.

BELGRADE, Dec. 16.—The weather is intensely cold throughout this region, and the soldiers at the front are suffering severely from it. A number of Servian soldiers have been frozen to death while asleep.

BULGARIA AND SERVIA.

SOFIA, Dec. 16.—Bulgaria has accepted the proposal of the powers for an international commission to demarcate the Bulgaro-Servian frontier under certain reservations. She wishes the commission to consider fairly the recent victories of the Bulgarian army.

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—The Sultan of Turkey appoints Prince Alexander governor for life over Eastern Roumelia, with the rights of succession.

PHILIPPOPOLIS, Dec. 18.—The Austrian agent has notified Prince Alexander that the military commission to demarcate a line between Servia and Bulgaria will consider the victories and defeats of both of the belligerents. He also says that Servia and Bulgaria will not be represented on the commission.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—A report has been received here that the Servian troops have been withdrawn from the Widden district.

VIENNA, Dec. 18.—A semi-official bulletin, issued at Nish yesterday, says: "Peace has not been assured. Bulgaria demands that Servia shall evacuate the Widden District. King Milan considers this an unfair request. Servia seeks an armistice and peace for political reasons, but if they are not to be obtained she will continue the war to the last extremity. She will, however, wait until the enemy takes the offensive."

SOFIA, Dec. 22.—The members of the International commission appointed to demarcate a line between the Servian and Bulgarian armies have drawn up and signed a protocol binding the Servians to evacuate Pirot on Sunday next, and prolonging the armistice to March. The protocol has also been signed by the Bulgarian and Servian delegates.

Great Britain.

HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Excitement throughout Great Britain on the subject of home rule for Ireland continues without abatement. Newspapers of all shades of opinion and politics are urging Mr. Gladstone to speak definitely in regard to his plans. The late premier, in response to a telegram sent to-day, asking him for information with reference to the Irish home rule scheme, which it is reported he has under consideration for some time, replied as follows: "From my public declarations at Edinburgh respecting the government of Ireland, you will easily see that I have no further communication to make."

It will be remembered that in the speech referred to by Mr. Gladstone, which he delivered November 17, he said in effect, in reply to Mr. Parnell's suggestion to give local self government to Ireland, that when he learns through a constitutional channel what the wishes of Ireland were, he would give them careful attention, but he could not give this knowledge until the new parliament met.

FROM GLADSTONE.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The following dispatch from Mr. Gladstone has been received by the Cable News company:

"If I should at any time have any plan or intention to announce on the question of the Irish government, it will be done publicly and on my own responsibility, not by an anonymous and irresponsible declaration. My political friends are assured that I remember my obligations to them, and they may safely understand that I am bound by none of the ideas respecting home rule for Ireland, recently announced in my name. After saying this much, I hold myself excused from replying to further inquiries, rumors or allegations regarding the Irish question."

OPPOSITION TO HOME RULE.

DUBLIN, Dec. 12.—The grand Orange lodge of Ireland held a meeting in Dublin to devise means for opposing the scheme of home rule for Ireland. A large number of peers and several loyalists members of the House of Commons were present. A manifesto addressed to the Orangemen of Great Britain was drafted and will be posted throughout Great Britain and Ireland. The manifesto is substantially as follows:

The aspect of affairs in Ireland was never more menacing than at present. Protestantism in three of the four provinces is at the mercy of the avowed conspirators, who are endeavoring to overthrow the rule of the imperial government. The duty of all true Irishmen is plain. While unwaveringly upholding Orange principles and abating not one jot of our conscientious opinion we shall cordially welcome all who are willing to assist in keeping intact the bond of unity with the great empire of which we are proud to form a not unimportant part. Our little band of loyalists finds itself in a position of unequaled difficulty. We are greatly outnumbered by the members of the Irish national league, the delegates, direct heirs and successors of the land league, which even a liberal government was forced to suppress as illegal, and which's answerable for many thousands of outrages. The small but firmly united band of loyalist members of the House of Commons by energy and determination, with the cooperation of their English brethern that the Loyalists represent the industry and intelligence of Ireland. If the Parnellite faction does not succeed wholly in its endeavors to sever the union by degrees, one of the first points which it will seek to obtain will be the complete control of educational matters. This would give the Parnellites control over the rising generation, while the command of the police would make them masters of the present generation. If the police should be commanded by Parnell's nominees, as would certainly be the case in the event of Parnell's demands being granted, loyalists would be placed in a worse position than that of their ancestors under the rule of Tyrconnell. The slightest relaxation of the ties of the union will eventuate in separation and ultimate ruin of the country. It will establish a drill ground for hostile armies and dock-yards for foreign fleets in the most vulnerable part of the empire. Therefore we appeal to those realizing our imminent peril to stand shoulder to shoulder in defense of the union and in the promotion of the cause of loyalty, liberty and religion—for God, the queen, and the country. The manifesto is signed by Lords Erne and Enniskillen.

France.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—Advices from Annam say that the Christians encamped in Andinh resisted numerous attacks by the natives, and in a final sortie dispersed the Annamites. Three hundreds converts were killed in the fight. Missionaries have occurred in the villages around Andinh.

DE LESSEP'S DAUGHTER.

PARIS, Dec. 17.—Madame De Lesseps, wife of M. De Lesseps, the diplomatist and engineer, has been delivered of a daughter.

MADAGASCAR.

PARIS, Dec. 19.—The French government has ordered the suspension of hostilities in Madagascar, so as to facilitate the negotiations for a treaty of peace which Admiral Miot is conducting with the Malagassy officials.

PASTEUR'S NEW JERSEY PATIENTS.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—The four children who were recently bitten by mad dogs in Newark, N. J., and who sailed on December 9 in the steamship Canada to be placed under the treatment of M. Pasteur, landed at Havre, all well. They reached this city today, and proceeded to M. Pasteur's house, where special arrangements have been made for the treatment of the little ones.

Germany.

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—Prince Bismarck was painfully injured to-day by the stumbling of his horse. In the effort to save himself from falling, the muscles of the prince's legs were so severely strained as to interfere with his walking. He is now confined to his room.

BERLIN, Dec. 21.—Emperor William's health has greatly improved during the past several days.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—Prof. Leopold Von Ranke, the historian, having yesterday reached his 90th year, was given an ovation by his friends and admirers. His residence was crowded during the day with the *elite* of Berlin society, the Crown Prince Frederick William being among those present. Emperor William and Empress Augusta sent the professor their portraits and an autograph letter of congratulation. The members of the cabinet sent a collective letter of congratulation.

Burmah.

RANGOON, Dec. 16.—Eleven Europeans, who were working for the Bombay and Burmah trading company, on learning of the rupture between Burmah and the Indian government, tried to reach Manipoor. On November 20 they were overtaken and murdered by Burmese troops in a steamer belonging to the king, and commanded by a palace official named Thandawmoung. It is alleged that Tynedah, the Burmese prime minister, was implicated in the massacre. The inhabitants of Rangoon are indignant at Tynedah being allowed to retain his office. Thandawmoung, after the murders, returned to Mandalay, where he circulated a report of his own death. His arrest has not yet been attempted by the British authorities.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 18.—A large body of Shans, led by a Buddhist priest, is raiding the Shaagyeen district in southeast British Burmah. The raiders have burned four large villages. It is also reported that the town of Sittaugh has been burned. A flying column of British troops has left Rangoon to punish the raiders.

Spain.

MADRID, Dec. 16.—A split has occurred in the ranks of the Royalist party, and the rival sections are violent in their denunciation of each other. The breach took place at a meeting of the Royalist club last evening, when a stormy discussion arose, which culminated in an exchange of blows by some of the members. The section headed by Senor Canovas Del Castille, ex-prime minister, withdrew from the club-rooms. Senor Romero Y. Rabledo, ex-minister of the interior, leads the Schismatics. The Royalist followers are dismayed at the rupture.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—Advices from Spain say a conspiracy to establish a republic has been discovered at Taragona. The details of the movement are withheld by the government.

Portugal.

LISBON, Dec. 15.—Prince Ferdinand, of Saxe Coburg, father of the king of Portugal, died to-day of facial cancer, which had been aggravated by a fall. The royal family were present at the deathbed.

Isthmus of Panama.

PANAMA, Dec. 17.—Colon has been visited by a very severe cyclone, which has done considerable damage. It commenced on the 2 i inst. at about 2 p m., and the next day lulled, but commenced again with terrible severity. All the steamers in port put out to sea for safety, returned, and had again to put out. The damage to property has been very heavy, and the loss to life most serious.

The following vessels were sunk, with their crews: Holden, Karnan, Blanche, Ortolaus, Atwood, Ariel, Veteran, Ocean, Lynton, Avelina, Stella, Catalina, Figri, Douglas, and two others whose names could not be ascertained.

The rain poured down in torrents, and a terrible gale of wind from the northeast set in. The Royal Mail new freight office was destroyed by the storm. Wharf No. 4, belonging to the Panama railroad, is almost demolished, the rails having been torn up and the earthworks destroyed by the force of the tornado.

Peru.

LIMA, Dec. 16.—A new legation to Bolivia has been organized, with Dr. Del Valle as minister. Drs. Rosas and Garcia Calderon have been appointed ministers to France and Spain respectively. The Constitutional party represented by Senor Elias has officially offered to Caceres the nomination for the Presidency.

The use of passports, hitherto required by persons leaving the country, has been abolished.

Canada.

MONTREAL, Dec. 19.—It is estimated that it will cost the Dominion government $100,000 to reimburse the grocers and saloonkeepers who obtained their licenses under the Dominion liquor act, which the privy council has declared unconstitutional.

Mexico.

MONTERY, Dec. 20.—Sepulveda, late acting governor, was liberated from prison Friday, and his officer, who gave the order to fire on the federal troops, has been acquitted on a military trial. The only person who suffer for the death and the wounding of sixteen federal soldiers on the night that Gen. Reyes demanded Sepulveda's surrender, are the rank and file of the latter's forces, about twenty of whom have been sentenced to serve a ten years' enlistment in the 5th battalion of cavalry, stationed here. All of the revolutionary forces lately in the field have been disbanded, and they have returned to their homes. Several of their leaders have been appointed to fat government offices.

The Turkish Bath as a Cure for Hydrophobia.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 21.—The theory advanced here a short time since, that a vigorous treatment of Turkish baths, administered in the early stages, would effectually cure hydrophobia, seems likely to be verified. Joseph Krelia, an employe of the car shops in West Milwaukee, was bitten by a dog, supposed to be mad, about 25 days ago, but did not experience any trouble until last Friday, when he was seized with what appeared to be the premonitory symptoms of hydrophobia. He complained of a severe prickling sensation at the wound and at points along his right side to the crown cut of his head, had a swelling in the throat, was unable to swallow, and restless to that extent that he could not sleep. He was taken to a bath establishment, and, Saturday, passed five hours in the sweat-room, with the temperature at 184°, and Sunday passed two hours there. Saturday night he obtained six hours of undisturbed sleep and rest, and yesterday again slept soundly. The dangerous symptoms have disappeared, and the man expects to resume his usual work to-day. Should they not return. The theory that this disease has been brought on by imagination is disproved by the fact that he gave no attention whatever to the dog bite, is a Bohemian, and not a reading man, and knows nothing whatever of the symptoms of hydrophobia.

Missionary Work.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Bishop Harris, presided at the anniversary of the Methodist Episcopal missionary society in the Academy of Music last night. An immense choir sang between the speeches. Rev. Dr. Reid said that in China, India and Japan a greater mission work had been accomplished than ever before. He said it would require every cent of the $1,000,000 voted by the society to continue the work during the ensuing year. Treas. Phillips said the receipts for 1885 amount to $826,828, or $95,702 more than last year.

Destructive Typhoon.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—Advices received by the steamer Oceanic say: A typhoon in the Philippine Islands, Nov. 7, destroyed over 4,400 houses, including 15 churches and 10 convents. Eighteen lives were lost, and 500 cattle destroyed. This report only comprises the destruction in 10 of 34 districts of the islands; the remaining 15 have not yet been heard from.

Death of Prof. Draper.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Prof. John C. Draper, the well-known chemist, was three days ago confined to his house with catarrh and pneumonia. To-night at 6:30, attended by his wife and physician, he died. Prof. Draper was connected with the college of the City of New York.

Death of Gen. Scott's Daughter.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 22.—Mrs. Cornelia Winfield Scott, wife of Col. H. L. S[illegible] only of the United [illegible]n, of [illegible]

OHIO'S SUPREME COURT.

As an Instrument of Fraud—A Synopsis of the Facts in the Case, and of the Decision of the Democratic Supreme Judges.

Readers of the BLADE are already familiar with the facts attendant upon the infamous fraud's committed in the city of Cincinnati at the late election in a desperate attempt to secure a majority in the Ohio legislature, and thus prevent the re-election of Sen. Sherman. In a single precinct of the Fourth ward, where the total vote cast at the presidential election one year ago footed up 664, and where the registration this fall was 720, the Democratic vote alone was announced at the conclusion of the count on election night as 726, or 62 more than the *total* vote on President one year before. The vote in this precinct was held back, the election officers being all Democrats, and before daylight a hack brought a messenger who held a private conference with these officials and went away as he came. When the vote was finally returned to the board of canvassers the Democratic ticket was reported as having 926 votes, *more than double* the number received by Cleveland one year before and over 200 *more than the total registry*. At the same time this return showed 48 Republican votes cast, although Blaine, the previous year, had 178, and 112 men have already made affidavit that they voted the Republican ticket in that precinct at this fall's election. The original return was made out as first announced, with 726 votes for the Democratic ticket, and the increase of 200 was effected by turning an awkward circle over the figure seven so as to make it appear to be nine. But so clumsy was this forgery that the small stem of the seven was left plainly visible and clearly showing the alteration.

926 9 9

Then tally sheets were hurriedly constructed to meet this exigency and Republican ballots taken from the box and Democratic ballots substituted. There has never been any dispute over these facts and no explanation is possible. An appeal to a city court secured a mandamus compelling the canvassing board to make a correction of this forged return. Upon this forgery depended the certification of four senators and ten representatives in the legislature. The four senators placed the state senate in Democratic hands by a majority of three, but the outrage could not change the political complexion of the house, which would still continue Republican by a majority of three on joint ballot. These, in brief, are the facts of this most glaring and villainous attempt to defraud the people of their choice by barefaced forgery.

The Supreme court of Ohio, in being appealed to, has sustained this villainy and these are its grounds:

"1. The duties of the canvassers of election returns are merely ministerial, and they have no power to decide such returns or any part of them invalid by reason of fraud at the election, or in the returns thereof as made to the clerk, and have no power to exclude such returns or any part thereof from the count for such reason.

"2. In a mandamus proceeding to compel such canvassers to omit certain votes for candidates for the general assembly from the abstracts, the court has no power to decide upon the validity of such returns, and it is error for the court in such a proceeding to decide or to instruct the canvassers to decide such returns or any part thereof invalid by reason of such fraud.

"3. The remedy in such case is by contest before that branch of the General Assembly for which the party affected is a candidate, and that remedy is exclusive."

Neither a canvassing board nor a court can take any notice of palpable forgery. It must count the returns as it finds them. It is completely at the mercy of any conscienceless scoundrel who chooses to manipulate the returns. The Democratic supreme court of Michigan took a different view only a few weeks ago. It granted a mandamus to compel a manifest error, either careless or criminal, to be rectified by the canvassing board, and the true and manifest result declared, but not by the Democratic supreme court of Ohio.

Nor does the only remedy which the latter offers for such wickedness prove an effectual one. By this decision the Senate of Ohio will have a Democratic majority, by reason, and only by reason, of this very forgery. Will that body inquire into these facts and do justice by the Republican constituents for these four stolen seats? Who believes it? To do so is to reverse the majority of the body. It is safe to predict that it will never be done, and so fraud will be perpetuated.

In the face of such undeniable facts, such a decision as this of the Ohio court is a mockery of justice. It leaves honest men absolutely without remedy against the plotting and intelligent work of unscrupulous villains, and turns elections by the people into a farce. It coolly leaves decent men in a position that is simply intolerable.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

Chas. Foster, the once noted spiritualistic medium, is dead in Boston.

The total exports of produce from New York during the past week were valued at $6,444,818.

A huge black bear held possession of a street in Kalamazoo on Sunday until he chose to take to the timber.

The revenue expenses have been reduced by the removal of thirteen employes of the U. S. Custom-house in Baltimore.

The report of the auditor of state shows that the support of the Ohio penitentiary cost $153,874 over and above receipts.

An appropriation of $107,800 has been asked for the extension of the terrace about the base of the Washington monument.

The principal barbed wire manufacturers of the United States met in Chicago, and agreed to advance the price of all grades of their product one half cent a pound.

David Whitmer, who was associated with Joseph Smith in the construction of the Book of Mormon, is dying at his home in Richmond, Mo.

The total imports of dry goods at New York during the past week were valued at $1,534,466, and the amount thrown on the market at $1,465,941.

The $200,000 bequathed to Vanderbilt University by the late W. H. Vanderbilt will be used in the erection of a fire proof library building and the purchase of books for the same.

A Cleveland police court judge has decided that the oleomargarine law is constitutional, and that butterine is not a recognized article of food, and no prosecution is legal unless the substance is sold as butter.

Pleuro-pneumonia has developed among a large herd of cattle near West Willow, Pa. Several animals have already died. Dr. Bridge, state veterinary surgeon, visited the herd, and ordered four killed and the rest quarantined.

The President has designated Somerville P. Tuck, of New York, to make search of the record of French and Spanish prize courts in the West Indies for evidence bearing on the claims of American citizens for French spoliations committed prior to 1801. Mr. Tuck made a similar search in France.

At Chalbourne, N. C., Mrs. Parks, a colored woman, went to prayer meeting, leaving her two children in the house. When she returned the house was on fire and the children were inside begging their mother to release them, but she could not without losing her own life, and the children continued to beg until the fire burned them and hushed their cries.

POLITICAL POINTS.

Elections in Massachusetts Towns—Dakota's New Senators—The Liquor Question.

BOSTON, Dec. 15.—Balloting to-day for the mayor of the city resulted in the election of Hugh O'Brien, Democrat, over A. M. Clark, Republican, by a majority of 8,397, in a total vote of 44,757. O'Brien's majority is the largest ever given to a candidate for mayor in Boston.

An analysis of the vote shows that in some of the strongest Democratic wards that the mayor lost, and that he gained in strong Republican wards. The total vote was 6,000 less than last year, and O'Brien's vote was 5,500 less than his total then, when his majority was only 3,326. The board of aldermen elected is equally divided between the two parties—6 to 6—and the common council is about as last year—31 Republicans to 41 Democrats. The electors voted on the question of liquor license against prohibition, and the returns show a majority for license of 9,962. The women candidates for the school committee were all defeated.

Elections were also held at Worcester, Newburyport, and in other cities. At Worcester, Winslow (Rep.) was elected mayor by 1,535 plurality. No license was carried by nearly 900 majority. Last year license was voted by 2,100 majority. Newburyport voted for license.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 15.—A Huron, Dak., special says the so called legislature elected Judges Moody and Edgerton United States senators for the would-be state of Dakota to-day.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 15.—Both branches of the general assembly met in separate sessions and nominated John W. Daniel United States senator. The joint sessions to-morrow.

CLOSING A FACTORY.

Thirty-five Hundred Men, with Families to Support, Idle, and Without Credit.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The closing of the Singer sewing machine works at Elizabethport, N. J., throws 3,500 men out of employment. The pay roll is $40,000 per week. Trouble has been brewing for many months, and was precipitated yesterday when Controller Carlton and City Treasurer Whelan, of Elizabeth, went to the factories of the company and made a levy for $20,000, claimed to be due on the last assessment for taxes. The controller selected for his levy two locomotives used in the company's yards, stating that he did not wish to cause any unnecessary inconvenience. The information of the levy was wired to the New York office of the company, where it was received at noon, and the order to close the works was sent out during the afternoon.

W. F. Proctor, vice-president of the company, stated last night that the Singer company, when Elizabeth was in trouble, advanced $300,000 on a call loan, and then individual members of the firm advanced a similar sum; besides, the Singer company bought many Elizabeth bonds, so that the city owes the company nearly $1,500,000. The demands of the company for payment of the call loans and interest have been ignored, and the city virtually tried to repudiate her bonds. "Why, an order to establish their validity," said he, "we had to go into court, and even after we obtained a decision we were offered only 50 cents on the dollar, and they didn't offer even that in cash. They tendered new bonds for half the value of the old ones. Worse than that, the legislature has gone on helping them with all sorts of acts. They appoint commissioners who assess us for taxes to keep up the town, and refuse to assess the town to pay us our interest. They also refused our offer to pay our taxes by allowing the municipality credit in its debt to us. That is the situation, and I guess we can stand it just as long as they can."

Last night orders were issued to run the shops of the company in Scotland on double time, in order that the business of the company may not be interrupted.

The Singer Factory.

ELIZABETA, N. J., Dec. 21.—In accordance with a resolution passed by the city council to-night, accepting a proposition of President McKenzie to raise the levy on the company's property when security is given for the taxes due, the Singer sewing machine factory will resume operations to-morrow.

ELIZABETH, N. J., Dec. 22.—The Singer Sewing Machine factory whistle was blown at 7 a. m., and the locked-out employes returned to work. The tax dispute has not yet been arranged.

SCHEME TO SEIZE CUBA.

A Vessel Containing Arms and Ammunition Boarded by Custom House Officials.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The steamer City of Mexico, lying at Beard's stores, Brooklyn, was boarded by the custom house officers yesterday, and a large quantity of arms and ammunition found in the hold. It was unloaded, and an officer placed in charge of the ship. The loading of this steamer with arms is but a part of an extensive scheme to seize Cuba. The City of Mexico had been used on the Alexander line between this city and Havana until October 29, when she laid up, and on November 28 was sold for $25,000 to a Spaniard whose name could not be learned. After the steamer was repaired she was taken to Beard's stores, where 600 tons of coal were loaded. A picked crew of 40 men were shipped for a voyage "not to exceed three months." Orders were issued that no one connected with the vessel should give any information or answer any questions. Steam was made Monday night, and the vessel started out, but instead of going to sea, backed in another dock, and began to load a number of mysterious cases. The next day an application was made for clearance papers, but before they were granted the surveyor made an inspection and declined to give them, having found cases of arms. This was considered sufficient for holding the vessel, and a custom house officer was placed in charge. The arms taken from the vessel are, it is claimed, a part of those which were shipped to Cuba about a year ago by the Anchor line steamer Dorian, which was not allowed to land, and were afterwards stored in Brooklyn.

It is alleged that the scheme of sending the City of Mexico to Cuba has been considered for some time. It is claimed that a complete understanding had been arrived at, and that it was the intention of the people who are behind the matter to take on here a number of men to drop down to Newport News, and there get more who have been sent there, and then proceed to Florida, where still more men were to be taken on board, and then to proceed to a small island near the southeastern coast of Cuba, where a landing would be made and the arms transferred to Cuba secretly, in steam launches,